

THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

PULPIT USURPATION.

MR. CHARLES S. ROUNDELL, a gentleman whose name and reputation are agreeably familiar to our readers, has written to the *Daily News* of Monday last an indignant protest against an incident of which he was made an unwilling witness on the foregoing Sunday at St. Stephen's Church, in the parish of South Kensington. His account of it is in these words—"At the close of the service, before the sermon, the vicar, Mr. Waldo, entered the reading-desk, and made an address to the congregation. He addressed us, he said, with the permission of the bishop of the diocese. He disclaimed all allusion to politics, and then at once plunging into politics, he urged us with great earnestness to support at the forthcoming school board elections the cause of denominational schools. He called upon busy men to spare their ten minutes. He assured 'ladies and women' (the clerical phrase, I suppose, for good Churchwomen and penitent Nonconformists) that there would be no bustle; or that, if there were, he and their worthy churchwarden, Sir Sibbald Scott, would lead them to the poll. And he concluded his appeal (worthy in every respect of its Irish prototype) by calling upon us to record our votes next Thursday for Canon Cromwell and Mr. Darby Reade." To what extent this usurpation of the pulpit, or to give it the accurate technical designation, the reading-desk, was carried in the churches of the metropolis on Sunday last, we have no means of ascertaining. The incident described by Mr. C. S. Roundell may have been typical, or only sporadic, but it is one suggestive of very serious reflections.

The first and most obvious one, is that raised by the protest of Mr. Roundell "against this indecent attempt of a clergyman of the Church to identify a national institution with the narrow interests of a particular religious and political party." We entirely agree with him in regarding the conduct of the clergyman in question as misbecoming his position. What, however, strikes us about it is, not so much the occasional (we think we may properly add, the common) abuse of the policy of the State in supplying a particular class of men with means and influence to be thus perverted, as the unsoundness and injustice of the policy itself. Out of the common resources of the nation the State has erected a pedestal from

which clergymen of a certain ecclesiastical system are legally chosen and maintained to conduct the service of God in conformity with a prescribed pattern, and to address those who are gathered together for that service upon all topics relating to their duty both to God and man. The special instance referred to by Mr. Roundell, as illustrative of the abuse of that position for party ends, is, after all, but an extreme case of a practice which is general. We Dissenters are perpetually subject to the injustice of being condemned in no measured terms by men whose moral prestige, no less than their material support, is given to them by the State of which we are all subjects. We do not well see how it could be otherwise in an institution founded upon such an unsound and partial basis. No doubt there are numbers of the clergy who would see the impropriety of employing means to which all contribute to ends with which only a certain party can sympathise. But there are thousands of others whose consciences take a different view of the responsibility devolving upon them, and who deem themselves under a sacred obligation to bring the whole of their influence to bear upon the furtherance of objects religious, ecclesiastical, civil, and political, which they identify with the well-being of Christ's Church. The original mistake consists in arming them with authority which does not properly arise out of the service in which they are engaged, or the mission which they are elected to fulfil. All that goes beyond that—all the prestige, and precedence, and power, given to them by special State sanction, can only be regarded as material put into their hands—of which they can make no legitimate use towards effecting the sacred ends of their profession, but which it is quite possible for them to misapply for the accomplishment of results far less valuable.

The truth is, we are not a little astonished at the want of self-respect and ordinary courage exhibited by the laity of the Church of England, in permitting themselves to be lorded over by a sacerdotalism the preposterous claims of which they despise in their hearts. Dissenters are roundly abused from Church of England pulpits, but go their way with the reflection that it does not greatly harm them, while it pleases those who administer chastisement to them. They are not in any way responsible, because their power is limited by the ecclesiastical system established by law. That system they are doing their best, in the only sphere open to them, to overturn; and, meanwhile, they can suffer without humiliation the affronts put upon them by predominant power. But the laity of the Church occupy a different position. It is with their tacit consent that their clergy "play such fantastic tricks before high heaven, as make the angels weep." There never was, perhaps, in human history, a more lamentable anomaly than that which is now rapidly growing out of the soil of lay passivity in the Church of England. The almost daily encroachments of the clergy are endured with a patience and a self-abnegation altogether surprising. For the most part, people of culture, of wealth, of rank, of independence, they nevertheless crouch submissively beneath the inflictions of a so-called priesthood in most respects inferior, in scarcely any superior, to themselves. It is a mournful spectacle. It is discreditable to the spirit of the age. Whether it arise from indifference to religion,

to country, to family, to self—an indifference growing out of luxurious habits, and a too great appreciation of personal ease, we will not here discuss; but, in its result, it casts a deep shadow upon the public character of England. It does not augur well for the country. It indicates a low state of vitality. It seems to point the way to a degenerate future, in which all the high spirit and manly virtues and heroic earnestness which characterised our ancestry, will be toned down by effeminacy to neutral moods, and in which society will again be divided into two classes—impostors and dupes.

Of the controversy now raging between the advocates of national and denominational education our readers have heard, perhaps, more than enough, from this journal—but the little incident mentioned by Mr. Roundell may serve to point out the direction in which the ecclesiastical tendencies of the present day are inevitably moving. The real question at issue is not whether education imparted by the State shall be religious or otherwise; it is whether the mind of this country is to be trained up in abject subjection to ecclesiastical rule, or whether it is to develop in perfection the true Protestant principle of "the right of private judgment." A priesthood, or no priesthood, is the question upon which every ratepayer of the metropolis who gives his vote for a school board to-morrow, will, whether consciously or unconsciously, help to determine. Denominationalism in its essence, means priestism. "Bible, or no Bible" means ecclesiastical supremacy, or lay supremacy, in the guidance of education. It has to be indicated by every man's vote whether he is willing to put himself under the command of that class of persons whose highest notions of Christian virtue appear to be implicit submission to the dictatorial self-importance of men who thrust themselves between God and the human conscience. The present Act, whatever may have been the intentions of its framers, is specially adapted and administered to favour and exalt priestly notions and priestly influence. It is, no doubt, capable of being made into an instrument of raising the educational level of the country, but it can be made so only by the sturdy, manly, sham-hating spirit of the English people. Is that spirit predominant in our population? That it is so among the millions outside the pale of the Establishment we venture to hope. That it is not so within that pale, we fear. But to every one who has a vote to give to-morrow, we earnestly recommend a passing glance at the world-wide issues, rather than the parochial or even metropolitan results, which are bound up with the progress and triumph of priestly assumption.

THE REVERSE SIDE OF CLERICAL ZEAL FOR EDUCATION.

It has been remarked—we forget where, or by whom—that there are some creatures exceedingly beautiful on the upper surface, but utterly hideous when laid on their backs. In fact, they won't bear looking at from any point of view but one. And it strikes us this is the case with clerical zeal for education. From the ecclesiastical point of view it is beautiful; but from any other it is not quite so pleasant. Assuming, as the National Society does, "that the national religion of the country should be made the foundation of national education, which should be the first and chief thing taught

to the poor, according to the excellent Liturgy and catechism provided for our Church for that purpose," clerical zeal for the establishment of schools is no doubt exceedingly admirable. But from the point of view of those who have a prejudice in favour of "reading with fluency and expression," or "proportion and vulgar fractions," the zeal which fails to bring 9,000 English children up to such attainments in any one year is not quite so satisfactory. St. Paul was quite willing to bear witness on behalf of the Jews, that they had a zeal for God. But the fact that this zeal was "not according to knowledge" considerably diminished its importance in his eyes. And we imagine that anyone who impartially surveys the history of the popular education during our own century must be convinced that clerical zeal, so far from having a favourable influence, has been distinctly an obstructive force. The clergy have been hitherto the chief founders of elementary schools. Yes; but why? Mainly because they have taken good care to prevent, as far as possible, all interference with their monopoly; and also because they have been anxious to restrain public instruction within such limits as seemed to them expedient and safe.

We are not speaking at random. We will make good what we have said by an appeal to undeniable facts. People who wish to be candid and fair, but have not the requisite knowledge, think that it is only sectarian prejudice which stints the profusion of our gratitude to the clergy of the Establishment. Yet a few facts, easily accessible, are all that is sufficient to show how illegitimate have been the influences by which they have excluded others from co-operation in the work. Thus when, in 1807, Mr. Whitbread, in moving a comprehensive bill for the improvement of the condition of the poor, drew the first sketch of a plan for primary education, he was very careful to provide that "religious instruction should be attended to, and the interests of the Establishment strictly guarded." Yet the House of Lords threw out the bill on the instigation of the Archbishop of Canterbury. And why? Because, as that most reverend person urged, the scheme "left little or no control to the minister of the parish"; because it tended to "subvert the first principles of education in this country, which had hitherto been, and he trusted would continue to be, under the control and auspices of the Establishment." And concluding with an elegant Latin quotation—

Ut pasta maneat in religione nepotes,
this highly-educated Church dignitary complacently thrust back the poor into their dark prison-house again, lest the sacred interests of the Establishment should be injured.

About the same date the Lancasterian Society was started, on a principle of unsectarianism quite as advanced as any that has hitherto been extensively adopted. The arrogant exponents of priestly prerogative, who now go about breathing defiance to school boards, plead for the rights of the Establishment, on the ground of the priority assumed on behalf of the National Society's schools. Such a claim is utterly baseless; and the assertions made to support it are preposterously false. Joseph Lancaster, the Quaker, was the very first man who ever conceived the idea of a really national primary education. And how did the clergy treat him? Some of the aristocracy, indeed, petted him as an amiable visionary for a while. But no sooner did his movement assume proportions threatening to clerical predominance, than the whole hierarchy launched its thunders upon him, and frightened his aristocratic patrons into withdrawal of their support. Nor was this enough. The necessity for some wider means of education than had hitherto existed was too pressing to be denied. And in order to snatch the work out of the hands of those who had devoted themselves to it in an unsectarian spirit, a new society, the so-called "National" was started; the first principle of which was that no child ought to receive instruction at all unless it would learn the Church catechism. This one fact alone, if it be rightly estimated, is sufficient to show how ridiculous are the assumptions made by champions of the Establishment, of a pure and disinterested zeal in the cause of education.

In 1820 Lord—then Mr.—Brougham brought in a Bill for the better education of the poor. Warned by previous experience of clerical intolerance, and willing if possible to deprecate spiritual wrath by flattery, he introduced the subject by an elaborate eulogy on the clergy, who of course were to be entrusted with the whole working of the measure. "He requested the House to observe how he had united and knit the system with the Protestant Establishment." The parson was to be a clerical schoolmaster, and the schoolmaster a lay parson. The parson was to have a veto on the ap-

pointment of the master. The parson was to be allowed to enter the school at all times, and examine the children. The parson was to fix the passages of Scripture to be read and taught. The parson alone could sanction the use of any other religious book. And Mr. Brougham was so sanguine as to suppose that "none but very squeamish Dissenters would refuse to send their children to these schools." Of course great excitement was occasioned among Nonconformists and Catholics, and equally of course the bill was thrown out. But who will have the hardihood to say that in this instance the sectarianism of Dissenters was the real obstacle to national education? The patronage of kings, prelates, and peers had, during twenty-two years, so enriched and extended the resources of the intrusive National Society that when the first Privy Council grants were made to schools, the lion's share necessarily fell to the schools of the dominant sect. Let any candid person consider what would have been the course of national education from 1807 had there existed no national establishment of religion. Is it not certain that the unsectarian system of the Lancasterian Society would have been extended and strengthened until it rivalled the common schools of America? And is it to be tolerated that men who have done their utmost to delay or to prevent so beneficent a result should be allowed unrebuked to plume themselves upon their devotion to education? We need not follow the story farther. Sir James Graham's Factory School Bill, and the ignoble resistance of the clergy to the conscience clause, are within the memory of all. And these facts are, we think, quite sufficient to make good our assertion that if the clergy have the greatest number of schools, it is because they have taken good care to prevent as far as possible all interference with the monopoly granted them by the State.

With regard to our other assertion, that the clergy have clung to their monopoly because they have been anxious to restrain public instruction within such limits as seemed to them expedient and safe, we cannot enlarge; but the facts are notorious. What was the meaning of their obstinate resistance to the conscience clause, if it did not signify a determination to keep down instruction to the level of the slavish submission which the Church catechism teaches? Or if this be thought a harsh interpretation, let any one turn to the "answers to questions" in the report of the Duke of Newcastle's Commission; and let him compare the highest standard of popular instruction suggested by the Bishop of Carlisle, the Rev. J. G. Cromwell, and Mr. Herbert Birley, with the ideas of Mr. Moses Angel and Mr. W. A. Shields. He will there find that while a bishop, a principal of a training college, and a High Churchman, thought that the meagre elements of reading, writing, and arithmetic, with possibly a vague introduction to grammar, history, and geography, were as much as could be communicated to children of the English poor, a Jewish teacher and a master of a Birkbeck school sketched out a far more generous scheme, by which the minds of children might be brought into intelligent communion with the thought of the age in which we live. In truth, the injuries inflicted on national primary education by the predominance of an Established Church are a telling illustration of its intolerable incongruity with the growing life of the nation.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

MEETINGS AT MANCHESTER.

On November 17, the Manchester District Council of the Liberation Society met at the Memorial Hall, Manchester, under the presidency of Mr. Hugh Mason. The special topics considered were the policy to be pursued by the society's friends at the general election, and the financial relations of the council to the society. Both led to a good deal of discussion, in which Mr. Ellington, one of the society's treasurers, and Mr. Carvell Williams, who attended as a deputation from the Executive Committee, took part, but the proceedings were of a private rather than a public character.

After the council meeting, which was held in the afternoon, its members were joined at tea by the committee of the Manchester branch, whose annual meeting was then held. Later in the evening a public meeting was held in the Memorial Hall, and though a few malcontents were present, it proved to be an harmonious and spirited meeting.

Mr. J. H. CROSFIELD, the honorary secretary, read the annual report, which was rather a lively document. It reported a series of meetings held in Manchester during the previous season. They met with great opposition, but, like true Liberationists, they carried out their scheme to the very letter, as they always meant to do. (Cheers.) The subscriptions for the year from Manchester and Salford amounted to 423*l.*, and the expenditure of the committee to about 60*l.*, the balance going to the general funds of the society. There was

probably no organisation whose funds were more judiciously expended. The committee were cheerful and undaunted, even amidst delays and defeats. The longer the strife the more complete would be the victory. (Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN, Mr. Henry Lee, J.P., then delivered an address. What were the prospects before the Liberation Society? If he were to take upon himself, in a few words, to speak of the prospects, or in any sense to look forward, he should say that this was a time when the Liberation Society was gathering force. It was not to be supposed because their meetings had been disturbed, and that generally the poorer classes of that county had been roused by the clergy to oppose them, that therefore the principles which they knew to be true were passing away. He believed, on the other hand, that the roots were striking more deeply into the ground, and that in a very short time the result would display itself in a much more powerful expression of public opinion than that which it obtained at the present day. It had not suited their political exigencies to permit the Liberation Society to be in the foreground. They were bound to wait, believing, if they did so, and were of good courage, that the time would come when, so far from the Liberation Society being looked upon by politicians as a hindrance, it would be regarded as one of the greatest helps in the way of progress. No doubt the coming election would be an election, far more than any which had preceded it, conducted upon disestablishment principles. It might not be that the question of disestablishment would be brought prominently forward; nor did he for one—he spoke only his own individual opinion—consider it would be wise in the present day to bring on the question of disestablishment prominently forward. If it were offered to him that the Church of England should be disestablished next year, he should say he did not want it, and why? Because disestablishment and disendowment supposed something like a revolution in the country, and it was desirable that public opinion should be informed, and that men should make up their minds before the great step was taken. He did not want to copy the example of Lord Derby when he brought in the Household Suffrage Bill, of taking a leap in the dark. He wished to look beforehand, and to take such steps as would be the means of bringing about a settlement of this question in a way that would be satisfactory to the general body of the people of this country. The Irish Church was disestablished too soon. If it had not been pulled through in so great a hurry, they might depend upon it that the Irish people would have got a better bargain than they had got now. He referred in closing—as did other speakers—to the loss which the local society had sustained in the death, that day, of Mr. James Sidebottom, its former treasurer, of whose genuineness and kindness he spoke in high terms.

Dr. PANKHURST moved the adoption of the report. He said they had all admired the clear way in which their secretary had described how at their meetings in Manchester last winter the vulgar violence of the opposition rose and gathered strength until it silenced the voice of reason, argument, and thought. (Hear, hear.) This was not unnatural from the supporters of an institution which existed on privilege and injustice, for if it was attacked how could it appeal to principle and right? (Cheers.) It could not do so; it must fall back upon its only source of power—force and violence; and every privileged institution always used the same kind of weapon of defence.

Mr. H. R. ELLINGTON, one of the deputation from London, said he was treasurer of the central executive, and he wished to speak on the practical part of their movement. Not only in Lancashire, but in many other parts of the country, people were crying, "Come over and help us"; and the society would be glad enough to go, only their resources were somewhat restricted, and they looked to rich districts like this to furnish them with sufficient funds. They wanted to go into the rural districts, and lay the truth before the farmer and agricultural labourer, and to carry the movement into the rural districts, and to many small towns, where the public were not so enlightened as they might be.

The resolution was put to the meeting, and carried against about half-a-dozen dissentients.

The Rev. W. C. SQUER was the next speaker. He said some people believed that those who wished to disestablish the Church must look for help to Mr. Gladstone; but he (Mr. S.) was satisfied that in other quarters there was a growing disposition to regard Liberationist principles in a friendly way. In proof of this statement he related a circumstance which had not, he believed, been made public before. The Earl of Derby, at a banquet in a rural district, proposed as a toast, "The bishop of the diocese and the clergy of all denominations"; but subsequent reference to the toast list showed that Earl Derby had substituted this for "The bishop and clergy of the diocese," and, in addition, he had persuaded the Tory rector to respond to his amended version of the toast. (Cheers.)

The Rev. G. R. REANY, of Warrington, in a very pointed and able speech, referred to the condition of the Establishment, as described by Canon Ryle, and insisted on the improbability of its being reformed till it was disestablished.

Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS next addressed the meeting, and gave a description of his visit to America, which was listened to with great interest.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and the deputation from the parent society having, at the instance of the Rev. JOSEPH GARSIDE, seconded by Mr.

SAMUEL BODDINGTON, been passed without opposition, the meeting broke up.

MEETINGS AT BRADFORD.

On November 19, the first annual conference of delegates from the various societies connected with the Yorkshire District Council of the Liberation Society was held in the Mechanics' Institute, Bradford. Alderman Lee (Wakefield) presided, and there were also present Mr. A. Illingworth, M.P., Mr. R. Kell, Alderman Law, Mr. Titus Salt, Mr. R. Yates, Mr. John Hill, Mr. Joseph Craven, the Rev. J. G. Miall, the Rev. J. Haley, the Rev. W. Bennett, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Briggs Priestley, Dr. Mellor, and delegates from Leeds, Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Keighley, Sheffield, and a number of other towns in the country.

After the delivery of an opening address by the CHAIRMAN, Mr. E. THOMAS, one of the secretaries, read the report, which described the various steps taken to organise the council and make its influence felt throughout the county. There existed twenty-three local committees, besides correspondents in other towns. A circular had been issued, containing the votes of all the Yorkshire members on ecclesiastical questions during the present Parliament. The interview with Lord George Cavendish, on the occasion of his re-election, was also referred to.

The Rev. G. M. MACALLAM, of Dewsbury, moved the adoption of the report, and in doing so said that the growth of Ritualism in the Establishment was an imperative call to decisive effort on the part of the society, and the Rev. Mr. MYERS, of Cleckheaton, who seconded the motion, took the same view.

Mr. KELL, referring to a passage in the report, said: The object of the Nonconformists in waiting upon Lord Cavendish was to try to put him in possession of the state of feeling of the Nonconformists throughout the country, because they knew that his lordship had the ear of Mr. Gladstone so closely that they hoped that he would lay these views before him and show him how the Nonconformists, the very backbone and vitality of the Liberal party, was estranged from Mr. Gladstone and the Liberal Government. They told him that unless the step which had been taken in the placing the education of the people in the hands of the priests should be retraced, he might go to Mr. Gladstone and tell him that he could no longer reckon on the support of Nonconformists in the future. (Hear, hear.) Unless that step was retraced, they could see nothing for it but the most entire crumbling away of the Liberal party, and the most complete retrogression of the Liberal policy by the sending of Conservative members to the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was then carried unanimously.

Mr. E. BUTLER, of Leeds, read a paper on the future action of the Yorkshire District Council. While full of practical suggestions, it was very vivacious and was much applauded. Referring to the work to be done, the writer said:—

The discreditable perversions of plain historical fact by our bishops and leading Church defenders are thoroughly startling. Assertions are made as to the parish churches and episcopal and other revenues which imply a carelessness of truth on the part of the speakers that would be perilous to their reputation but for the correlative readiness on the part of these hearers to believe pleasant fictions. This educational process on brethren who love us, and brethren who dislike us, must be carried on by a variety of agencies. The work of this society will often be merely collective of facts and dates, suggestive of opportunities, men, and modes. It will be a cerebral arrangement for recovering Nonconformist sensations and transmitting Nonconformist impulses. But it will not preclude the independent action of local ganglia, knots of Nonconformist nerves capable of brisk and useful automatic action. Descending from my stilts to the ground level, I say that this society will always tender the stimulus of its thanks and appreciation to able men like Dr. Mellor, who are quick to see and seize opportunities such as the Bishop of Ripon has been recently so liberal in bestowing. This sleepless vigilance, this readiness to point out false facts, faulty logic, vicious consequences in the sayings and doings of notable men connected with the Establishment, is one of the most important works to which we can at present devote ourselves, though one in which the actual blow is delivered by an individual rather than by a council or committee. The educational process will be carried on in all the various channels by which knowledge and mental impulse are brought to the minds of our fellow men. There is first the newspaper. It is time that we insisted on more cordial recognition, and equal dealing on the part of the Liberal press. Personally, we may be among the humblest of men; but there are given to our custody great and glorious principles, which we are not at liberty to see insulted or ignored. We must carry our banner stiffly against the breeze, nor submit to be blown into quiet byways and secluded dells. Of course we cannot always have our own way in using the columns even of the most favourable journals. But unceasing watchfulness will often enable us to plant ourselves to advantage in the columns of the daily journals, pending the arrival of the time when we shall have a daily paper filled with our own enthusiasm, and capable of reflecting our ardour and demonstrating the righteousness of our position.

Mr. R. Goddard, the Rev. J. Brown, of Barnsley, and the Rev. J. Hanson, of Huddersfield, then spoke to a resolution referring to the present aspect of the question.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS also spoke on the resolution. He congratulated the delegates present on the success which had attended the experiment which had been made in establishing the Yorkshire District Council. They had lately been told by one of the leading London papers that the Libera-

tion Society's movement had been a complete failure; but he ventured to say that if the movement had been what it was thus represented to have been, that article would never have appeared at all. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) The appearance of such an article was a sign that the movement was becoming exceedingly troublesome to certain parties in the State, because the whole drift of it was that disestablishment was certain to come, but that the Liberationists were not to suppose for a moment that they were the men who were to bring it about. They had been laying the foundation, and had been doing the rough work, and now they were to stand aside and let their betters finish it at their convenience. (Applause and laughter.)

The Rev. Dr. MELLOR said they had better in the future abstain from any discussions about Church property. After a nation had taken so practical a step as the English nation had done in the case of the Irish Church, they would never go back to metaphysics or refinements. The country had been appealed to on the question very recently; it had heard one side and the other, and had decided as emphatically as it was possible to decide anything, that Church property was national property, and that they would treat it as national property. (Applause.) Therefore he thought that all the breath that would be used, the ink that would be used, and the time that would be used in discussing that subject further would only be so much breath, ink, and time wasted. (Hear, hear.) The nation had decided the point by the Irish Church Act, and if there was any difference in the position of the Irish Church and the English Church it was not a difference in the nature of their property; they had dealt with Church property as national property once, and would do so again. (Hear, hear.) He had been greatly encouraged of late by the attitude which many Churchmen had taken with reference to their movement. Since the publication of his letters to the Bishop of Ripon he had been congratulated by Churchmen on the soundness of the position which he had taken. (Hear, hear.) One thorough Churchman in Halifax had stopped him in the street and told him that he agreed with everything that the letters contained, and that he believed the only way to get rid of Ritualism was by the disestablishment of the Church. (Applause.)

Mr. HILL and the Rev. A. MORRIS, of Keighley, having submitted a resolution relative to practical action, and Mr. ELLINGTON having spoken to it, a vote of thanks to the chairman, moved by Mr. ILLINGWORTH, M.P., and Mr. TITUS SALT, closed the proceedings.

At night the annual meeting of the Bradford Branch was held in the Mechanics' Institute, and considering that there were five school board meetings being held in the town at the same time, it was very well attended; while it was very enthusiastic throughout.

Mr. ILLINGWORTH, M.P., who presided, said:—They had the satisfaction, too, of knowing that the question was advancing so rapidly that even statesmen were obliged to recognise it, and to discuss its bearings and its merits. Even Mr. Childers, who was among the last of all the men who would willingly turn their attention to these questions—now that he was relieved from the embarrassments of office and from the complaint of "Admiralty on the brain," from which, unfortunately, for a long time he suffered—was turning from figures as they affected the building of ships to figures as they affected the position of the Church in this country. From the speech which that gentleman had delivered at Knottingley this week he (the chairman) was delighted to see that he was bringing out the full forces of voluntarism as now at work in the Church Establishment. When Mr. Childers accumulated figures that to him appeared astounding, and told how that 600,000*l.* a year was now being spent in the erection of new churches, and 2,000,000*l.* a year in the renovation, decoration, and beautifying of churches, the Liberationists rejoiced, because of this fact—to which he could like to draw Mr. Childers's attention—that all this work which had been done within the Episcopalian Church during the last few years had been done upon the very principle which they were seeking to throw that Church upon entirely. (Applause.) The Establishment principle had done nothing for the work which the Church had been doing in this direction.

A letter from Mr. Miall, M.P., having been read, Mr. Butler spoke with great force and humour. Alderman Lee, the Rev. J. Brown, of Barnsley, Mr. Carvell Williams, Mr. Ellington, and Mr. B. Illingworth also spoke.

Mr. JOHN PRIESTMAN moved the appointment of the local committee for the ensuing year, seconded by Mr. J. Andrew, and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

MR. MASON JONES'S ADDRESSES.

On Monday evening an immense meeting was held at the Lambeth Baths in support of the disestablishment and disendowment of the English Church. Mr. Andrew Dunn, one of the Liberal candidates for Southwark, in the chair. The chairman emphatically condemned all endowments of religion as an injury to true spirituality and almost an insult to Christ. Mr. Mason Jones then delivered an eloquent address on "Disestablishment as the Best Cure for Ritualism." In an argument which occupied nearly an hour of his speech, he conclusively showed that Ritualism consisted not in lights, dresses, crucifixes, genu-

flexions, incense, music, or pilgrimages, but the fundamental idea underlying the whole thing was that of a "sacrificing priesthood." That the development of that idea logically and necessarily led to all the mummeries of Ritualism, and involved all its distinctive tenets, including baptismal regeneration, Apostolical succession, the real presence in the Eucharist, auricular confession, penance, priestly absolution, and if logically carried out, must end in the idea of Papal supremacy and infallibility. It was striking to note the manner in which the vast audience, composed almost entirely of the working classes, listened to this severe chain of argument, the logical force of which was irresistible; all the speaker's points being immediately responded to. In answer to Mr. Mason Jones's indignant questions as to whether they were willing to submit their necks to priestcraft, to submit their wives and daughters to the Anglican confessional, to destroy the work of the Reformation, and drag England back into the mediæval darkness of the middle ages, the shouts of "No," from the audience were positively thrilling. Resolutions in favour of disestablishment and undenominational education were then put and carried with acclamation. Cordial votes of thanks to Mr. Mason Jones and the chairman brought the proceedings to a close, which were throughout of a most enthusiastic character. Mr. Mason Jones has made arrangements for holding a series of disestablishment meetings in the metropolis.

THE "TRAFFIC IN SOULS."

An ecclesiastical auction of a somewhat unusual character takes place on Thursday, the 27th (tomorrow), at one o'clock, at Messrs. Beadel's auction mart, Tokenhouse-yard, London. It is the "re-sale" of the next presentation or nomination of Water Stratford, near Buckingham, and it is being resold because the clergyman for whom it was bought has got another preferment—probably from his father-in-law, who is an archdeacon in the Church. The advowson formerly belonged to the Duke of Buckingham, but was sold by him in 1849 to the present patron, who in his turn sold the next presentation in 1867, but no vacancy having occurred, the heir apparent has taken other preferment, and now offers the lot. The incumbent is the Rev. Dr. Bosworth, Professor of Anglo-Saxon at Oxford, and a letter from him will be produced at the sale stating that he will be eighty-six years of age in December. If the auctioneer produces all the inducements he has to offer—all the evidences that this is a safe investment—his audience may be amused, but possibly disgusted. It is expected there will be a large audience, as the circumstances attending the sale are uncommon and happily rare. The value of the living is 446*l.* 5*s.*, and the population 200 (2*l.* 4*s.* each) and "purely agricultural."

The *Liverpool Courier* says:—"It was announced in this journal, so soon as the appointment was made, that the Rev. Drummond Anderson, M.A., for seventeen years incumbent of St. Mark's Church, had accepted the chaplaincy of the Seamen's Orphan Institution, Newsham Park. It is now understood and spoken of as an accomplished fact that either the next presentation or the advowson of St. Mark's has been purchased from Mr. Edward Lawrence by Mr. Durning. Mr. Durning has conferred the appointment upon his son-in-law, the Rev. Charles James O'Reilly, B.A., formerly connected, as curate, with Woolton, and for the last six weeks or two months curate of St. John the Baptist's, Toxteth Park. Following so closely upon the sale of the rectory of Liverpool, this appointment and transaction have amazed the congregation of St. Mark's, and will no doubt open afresh the question of Church reform and the sale of livings."

M.P.'S ON ECCLESIASTICAL TOPICS.

The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird has lately been addressing his constituents at Perth, and in the course of his speech he said that Mr. Miall brought forward a motion for the disestablishment of the Church of England, but only obtained the support of a small minority. He had voted, and would vote again, if he had the opportunity, in favour of Mr. Miall's motion. Mr. Kinnaird proceeded to say:—"The position of the Church of England with reference to State control was often misunderstood. Some, for example, objected to legislating in the House of Commons because they rightly deemed it to be unfitted for the task. Others, like the Premier himself, who were strong advocates of Church and State, equally objected to ecclesiastical discussions in the House. But where else could they be discussed to any practical purpose, as the action of the Church of England was entirely controlled by the State? For example, it was by statute law alone that none but episcopally ordained ministers occupied the parishes and pulpits of the Church of England. In Scotland we could hardly take in such a state of things. No doubt many had exclaimed against the intolerance of the Church of England, whereas it could not be intolerant as it had no power of legal action apart from the State. Who prevented Scotch ministers from officiating in the English Establishment? Not the Church of England as such, but the statesmen whom they sent to Parliament, so long as they were parties to the continuance of the laws of exclusion. He once endeavoured to call attention to the matter, but could get no support even from Scotch members. He would impress upon them the fact, that their Scotch representatives were by law as much a portion of the governing body of the Church of Eng-

land as the bishops themselves. The bishops were the executive, but they had no more power to admit others than episcopally ordained ministers in the Church of England pulpits than a judge had to make new laws for himself. If the public mind could be well taught in this matter, they should make some way towards that Reformation which was again needed to stop the alarming progress of Popery within the Church of England. The question of patronage in the Church of Scotland seemed likely to arise again, and one could not but rejoice that sounder views on that question were spreading in the Establishment itself.

Mr. W. S. Allen, the new member for Newcastle-under-Lyme, in addressing his constituents last week, said that last session he voted for Mr. Miall's motion because, seeing the state of the Church, he could come to no other conclusion than that disestablishment and disendowment alone could save her from impending ruin. There were three parties in the Church—the Low Church, which was losing ground, becoming cowed and depressed, and rapidly diminishing in number; the Broad Church, including men of large and generous views and sympathies, but not a numerous body; and the High Church party, which was active, energetic, and daring, flushed with victory, and conscious of rapidly-approaching triumph. Unless, therefore, the Church was disestablished, it would very soon be Protestant only in name. He did not vote with Mr. Miall to injure the Church, but to save it, and give its members that power, liberty, and freedom of action which the Dissenters enjoyed. (Applause.) He contended that disestablishment and disendowment would not injure the Church, and went on to express his abhorrence of the sale of livings.

Mr. J. Dent Dent and Sir Harcourt Johnstone, the borough members, addressed their constituents at Scarbro' on Monday, and in the course of their remarks touched upon the principal measures dealt with in the past and sessions immediately preceding it, and also the questions likely to occupy the attention of Parliament in the future. Mr. Dent said that, with respect to the 25th clause of the Education Act, he had always stood up for the clause. He had always thought that, worked as the clause was in Leeds, it would do very little harm; but worked as it was in Manchester, it was likely to do a great deal of harm, and to provoke a good deal of hostility throughout the country. Both for the sake of removing a bone of contention, and for the sake of education, he should vote for the abolition of the clause, because he believed that those who were in the receipt of relief were so few in numbers that the voluntary efforts of their own denomination would be able to reach them, or probably some scheme by which the schools receiving Government grants were to take a certain percentage of pupils into the schools free might be carried out. As to the Church question, he was not prepared to consent to the disestablishment of the Church. (Hisses and cheers.) With statesmen far wiser than he either was or hoped to be, he did not think the question was likely to come up for legislation, but if there was any danger, that danger lay more within than without the Church. There was a party in the Church at the present moment who, if they were honest, would not remain in the Church. Sir Harcourt Johnstone said that with respect to the Elementary Education Act, he had always held that the right of the parent to choose his children's school should be preserved, and that when a poor man was unable to pay his fees they should be paid for him in any school he might select. And until he saw that right secured by some other means, he should always vote against the 25th Clause being repealed. On this point many of his constituents differed from him, and some of them also differed with the views he held on the question of Church disestablishment. He did not believe that disestablishment would be so much in the interests of the State, or Nonconformists, or religion, as some people imagined. It might gratify a great number of people who wished to see the Church in difficulties, but it would not assist the work of the Church in any way whatever, but, on the contrary, would hinder it to an enormous extent. No doubt practices were carried on in the Church which were inconsistent with the principles of the Reformation, and with the old thorough English feeling which it brought in its train. And if those practices continued it was very much more likely that the Liberal party would go in for disestablishment than it was at present. (Cheers.)

The *Record* states that the Bishop of Durham has conferred the canonry vacant by the death of the late Canon Chevallier upon the Rev. Dr. Tristram.

THE OLD CATHOLIC BISHOP OF GERMANY.—The Grand Duke and Duchess of Baden gave a special audience to Bishop Reinkens on Friday, and the committee that had been appointed at Munich to consider the expediency of his recognition in Bavaria is said to have decided in the affirmative.

THE WEST INDIA BISHOPS.—We learn from Guiana that the Bishops of Jamaica, Antigua, Barbadoes, Nassau, and Trinidad, and Bishop Parry, arrived at Georgetown at the close of October, to hold the conference proposed by the Archbishop of Canterbury last year to the West Indian bishops, for considering whether "some provision should not be made without delay against the trouble and confusion which must ensue in proportion as disendowment takes effect."

REVISION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.—The twentieth session of the Company for the Revision of the

Authorised Version of the Old Testament came to an end on Friday afternoon. The following members have been present during the session:—The Dean of Canterbury, Mr. Bensley, Professor Chenery, Dr. Davies, Dr. Guisburg, Dr. Gotch, Archdeacon Harrison, Dr. Kay, Professor Leathes, Canon Perowne, and Mr. Aldis Wright (secretary). The company revised for the first time Psalms lxxxvii. to cxix. 88.

THE DURHAM PROSECUTION.—A meeting of Churchmen of Northumberland and Durham was held on Wednesday at Newcastle, when it was resolved to present an address to the Bishop of Durham expressing the sympathy of the laity with his lordship in his endeavour to check the progress of ritualism in the diocese, and their thanks for the general course of action he has adopted. It was resolved to raise a guarantee fund to pay the costs of the bishop in the action pending against him by Canon Dykes, of Durham, and also the costs of any future proceedings. Upwards of 5,000*l.* was subscribed at the meeting.

ANOTHER RITUALIST PROSECUTION.—The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has commissioned the Archdeacon of Gloucester, Sir George Prevost, and four other clergymen, to inquire into charges of excessive ritualism brought against the Rev. J. Edwards, vicar of Prestbury, near Cheltenham. It is alleged that he has been in the habit, in violation of the Purchas Judgment, of bowing and genuflecting before a picture of Mary and Jesus in the aisle of his church, of mixing water with the wine at the communion, of using wafers instead of bread, and of burning altar lights. His curate lately went over to Rome.

THE POPE, replying on Wednesday to addresses presented by the pupils of the German and North American Colleges at Rome, said, in his address to the Germans, that on returning to their country they would meet with a terrible persecution which would remind them of that under the Emperor Julian. They must therefore arm themselves with patience and strength to undergo the struggle, and imitate the glorious example of their clergy. Addressing the Americans, His Holiness said:—"In Germany liberty is oppressed, but in your country it is complete and almost excessive, or at least very dangerous. For you, therefore, the easy practice of the laws of Christ and complete victory over yourselves are virtues which are extremely necessary to aid you in vanquishing the temptations of bad example."

CHURCH AND STATE IN GERMANY.—A very important ecclesiastical movement in Germany is reported in a Berlin telegram to the *Daily News*. It is said that some of the leading Roman Catholic clergy in Posen have put forth a statement that the present strife between Church and State is creating in many parishes a state of spiritual destitution, injurious to the welfare of the Church and to the souls of believers; that Archbishop Ledochowski must inevitably succumb; and that there is, in fact, in the new laws nothing repugnant to Catholic doctrine. A circular embodying these points is obtaining signatures. On Saturday the furniture and goods of Archbishop Ledochowski were distrained upon for his unpaid fines. That prelate is said to have been surprised and affected; but he is resolved to remain firm in resisting the temporal power. The Prussian correspondent of the *Times* writes that, although civil marriage under the new bill is to be obligatory, any clergyman willing to act as civil commissary of matrimony is to be eligible for the office. The clause will, however, probably remain a dead letter, for the Protestant as well as the Catholic clergy strongly object to the measure.

ANTI-CONFESSIONAL MEETING AT BRISTOL.—A numerously attended meeting was held at Bristol on Thursday, for the purpose of protesting against the introduction of auricular confession in the Church of England. The Dean of Bristol (Dr. Elliott) presided, and opened the proceedings by giving a sketch of what he believed to be the teaching of the Church of England on the question of confession and the duties imposed on its ministers in relation thereto. The Rev. Canon Girdlestone, in a very forcible speech, proposed the first resolution, which condemned the attempt now being made to import into the Church of England the Romish system of auricular confession. He held that it was the duty of the bishops to use the powers they possessed to suppress Ritualist practices, but how was it, he asked, that this was not done? Simply because some of the bishops were at that moment among the chief conspirators to destroy the Reformed Church of England. He thought they must all feel grateful to the bishop of that diocese for the public avowal which he had lately made of his determination to put down Ritualist practices, and he believed that if his lordship could be persuaded to suppress every breach of the law, he would find a very large number of his clergy and a very large majority of the laity in his diocese ready to give him substantial and cordial support. The resolution was seconded by the Rev. Flavel Cook, and carried unanimously, as was also one declaring auricular confession to be alien to the devotional system of the Protestant communion. The meeting was very enthusiastic.

MR. MIALI, M.P., ON DISESTABLISHMENT.—At the annual meeting of the Bradford branch of the Liberation Society held on Wednesday, a letter was read from Mr. Miall, M.P., in which the honourable gentleman said—"The movement which will come under your consideration on Wednesday has long since outrun any need it may once have felt of personal advocacy and support, and will go forward

by its own inherent vigour, quite independently of what, in the natural course of things, may be the position allotted to those who were permitted to watch over its earlier career. It has developed a *vis vite*—an energy of life which no personal changes are likely to destroy or even materially to check, and is assimilated in this respect to the truth which it embodies in being imperishable until its fruit shall have been ripened and gathered. You will not have forgotten a brief period during the agitation abolishing church rates—a period which only just preceded its triumph as the darkest hour precedes the dawn—when the advocates of that unjust ecclesiastical exaction were jubilant in their belief that the opposition to it had all but exhausted itself, and that a long lease of life was before it. There is the same sort of artificial and illusory hope just now in regard to the question of disestablishment, the flickering up of the flame in the socket which is ominous of approaching extinction. Approaching, I say, for it will not be yet, nor is there any reason why we should impatiently expect it; but there is still less reason why we should look despondingly into the future, approximate or remote, of the principle we are seeking to urge forward. All efforts in the church and out of it are converging upon the same point—the disentanglement of the organisation and association of Christian life from the alliance, arrangement, and influences of a secular character which exercise upon it a deteriorating power and neutralise more or less its spiritual energies."

Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. F. P. Sellar has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Dock-street Independent Church, Newport, Monmouthshire.

The Rev. E. Bolton, of Lancaster-road Chapel, Preston, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church and congregation at Gloucester-street Chapel, Weymouth, to become their pastor.

The Rev. L. J. Davies, of London, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation worshipping at the Independent Chapel, New Conduit-street, Lynn, to become their pastor, and entered upon his duties on the 19th inst.

CHURCH MISSION AT CROYDON.—A mission is being held this week in the churches of Croydon, but so much has this movement increased of late, and so great is the demand for clergymen to conduct the missions, that in two parishes it has been found impossible to secure the services of a "missioner." A fund has been established in connection with the Additional Curates' Society to provide for the payment of the travelling and other incidental expenses of the clergy engaged in this form of work.

BELGRAVE CHAPEL, LEEDS.—This chapel, which has been closed for several weeks, was reopened on Sunday, the Rev. G. W. Conder, of London, preaching to crowded congregations both morning and evening. During the time the chapel has been closed several structural alterations have been made, and the whole building has been renovated and painted, whilst many parts of the interior have been even handsomely decorated. The whole expense is expected to exceed by several hundreds of pounds the amount (about 1,000*l.*) raised by the bazaar which was held in the Victoria Hall a short time ago.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, NORTH SHIELDS, having been closed for some weeks, during which time the old pews have been replaced by stalls, and the interior otherwise thoroughly renovated and improved—was reopened on Friday, Nov. 7, when two powerful sermons were preached by the Rev. L. D. Bevan, LL.B., of London. On the following Monday a tea-meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms. Between 500 and 600 sat down to tea. After the tea there was an enthusiastic meeting. A. Common, Esq., J.P. of Sunderland, who presided, gave a most excellent address on music. Addresses were also delivered by the Revs. W. Grey, W. Neil, W. Salmond, and A. Norris. During the evening the choir sang several pieces of sacred music. Sermons have also been preached in connection with the reopening services by the Rev. Principal Newth, M.A., New College, London, S. Goodall, Durham; J. Hunter, York; and J. W. Ellis, minister of the church.

FREE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—Mr. Thomas Jarratt, of Manchester, has accepted a unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the church and congregation at Goldenhill, near Stoke-upon-Trent, and expects to begin his labours on the 1st of January, 1874. The Bishop of Lichfield has recently appointed a full-fledged Ritualist as vicar of Goldenhill, against the expressed wish of almost the whole of the parishioners, who have been trained by their late respected vicar in sound Protestant Evangelical principles. Being deprived of their right to worship God in accordance with the doctrines and usages of the Established Church of England by the bishop of the diocese, nearly the whole of the communicants, teachers, and Sunday-schoolers have been compelled to withdraw from the parish church, and an iron church is now being erected at the sole cost of J. H. Williamson, Esq., in order to give these faithful sons of the Church that which her unfaithful hiring priests are paid by the State to supply.—*From a Correspondent.*

HOLLINGWORTH.—The opening services of the new Congregational Chapel, Hollingworth, Cheshire, took place on Thursday last, when two sermons were preached by the Rev. J. A. Spurgeon. On Saturday afternoon about 600 people partook of tea in the new schoolroom. A public meeting was

afterwards held, presided over by J. S. McMaster, Esq., of London, to whose generous efforts the erection of the building is almost entirely owing. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. J. Adamson, of Bowdon; J. Hutchinson, of Ashton-under-Lyne; T. Robinson, B.A.; and A. Stroyan, of Hyde; W. H. Donovan, B.A., Tintwistle; Thos. Hughes, pastor of the place; and F. Midwood, Esq. On Sunday last the Rev. Professor Newth, of the Lancashire College, preached in the afternoon and evening. The collections of both days amounted to 140l. The opening services will be continued on Sunday next, when the Rev. J. Williamson, M.A., Staleybridge, will preach in the afternoon, and the Rev. J. Hutchinson, Ashton-under-Lyne, in the evening. The building is in the Gothic style, and is truly beautiful and commodious. It is calculated to seat 520 people. The schoolroom underneath will seat upwards of 600, and it contains six large class-rooms. The architect is Mr. H. Pinchbeck, of Manchester.

REGENT'S PARK COLLEGE.—The annual meeting of this college, which belongs to the Baptist denomination, was held on Friday evening, in the College Library: Dr. Weymouth, principal of Mill-hill School, presiding. The chairman, in his opening remarks, dwelt on the importance of providing the best kind of collegiate education both for young men who are designed for the Nonconformist ministry and for others who are intended for secular pursuits, so as to enable them to take a useful part in the intellectual disputes of the age. The Rev. Dr. Angus, principal of the college, read the report for 1872-3. During the year, it is said, forty-one students attended the classes, four ministerial, and six lay students left the college, and six ministerial and five lay students were received. As stated in the last report, for really efficient pastors there was still a large demand, and the foreign mission fields were crying earnestly for more labourers. From the reports of the examiners of the students, it appeared that in the examinations on Butler's Analogy and Sermons six students passed in the first class, three in the second, and two in the third; that in the examinations in the Greek New Testament and in theology the results were satisfactory; and that in Latin and elementary Greek the general average was decidedly good. Similar mention was made in mathematics, chemistry, and French; while the examiner in Hebrew intimated a desire that the study of it might engage more attention. At the last matriculation examination at the London University, it was remarked one student of that college, Mr. A. W. Timms, passed in the first class. At the commencement of the year there was a debt remaining of 222l. This had now been paid off. The legacies and donations of the year amounted to 1,996l., the subscriptions to 600l., and the receipts were 3,125l. The income of the year included a donation of 200l. from Mr. G. F. Angus, of South Australia. The disbursements of the year amounted to 2,355l. An appeal was made to the denomination for increased subscriptions. The report was adopted, and several addresses were delivered.

YORKSHIRE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—On Wednesday and Thursday last, the meetings in connection with the Autumnal Conference of the above association were held in the Baptist Chapel and school, Priory-street, York. The proceedings commenced on Wednesday morning by the holding of a prayer-meeting, presided over by the Rev. John Barker, of Lockwood. In the afternoon a conference was held under the presidency of Mr. G. Walker. The subject of the conference was "Christians outside the Church," on which subject an able paper was read by the Rev. W. C. Upton, of Beverley, in which at great length he considered the various causes which led to great numbers of Christian people remaining outside the communion of the various churches. Amongst the causes of this were the influence of social customs, the unloveliness of many Christian characters, the unseemly quarrels and disputes at church-meetings, the lack of warmth and cordiality in connection with the churches, and especially the low spiritual condition and lack of vitality. In the course of the discussion which ensued, various suggestions were made for removing the hindrances referred to in Mr. Upton's paper. Those who took part in the discussion were the Chairman; Mr. T. Aked, Scarborough; Rev. F. B. Meyer, York; the Rev. H. Varley, London; the Rev. Dr. Stock, Huddersfield; Mr. Brooke, Treasurer of the Home Mission Fund, Huddersfield; Rev. Eli Dyson, Ossett; Rev. W. Best, Leeds; Rev. John Haslam, Gildersome; Rev. Dr. Green, Rawdon College; and the Rev. J. Barker, of Lockwood. In the evening a number of the above mentioned ministers delivered addresses in the Baptist Chapel, and on the following morning a meeting for conference and prayer was held, when the subject under discussion was "Faith in relation to Christian character and services." On this subject a lengthy address was delivered by Mr. Varley, of London, after which an interesting discussion took place. In the afternoon, a communion service was held, presided over by the Rev. W. Best. This terminated the session of the conference.

THE REV. J. UPTON, B.A.—This gentleman, the minister of Onslow Baptist Chapel, Brompton, having accepted an invitation to the pastorate of the church at Dunedin, New Zealand, was entertained at a farewell *soirée* on Thursday evening. There was a crowded attendance, and at the meeting after the *soirée* the chair was occupied by the Rev. A. Mearns, of Markham-square Congregational Church. Prayer having been offered by the Rev. S. Green, of Hammersmith, addresses

were delivered by Mr. Goode and Mr. Fowler, two Australian merchants, and also by the Rev. J. L. Parsons, from Australia, and the Rev. J. Davis, sen., of Romford, the venerable father of the guest. Mr. Chisholm, one of the deacons of Onslow Chapel, in name of the church and congregation, then presented their late pastor with a purse containing sixty guineas. The Rev. Charles Winter, of Edith-grove Church, presented an address, which was accompanied by a copy of Dr. Lange's "Commentary," in fifteen vols. The books bore the following inscription:—"Presented to the Rev. J. Upton Davis, B.A., on his leaving England for New Zealand, by his neighbouring brethren in the ministry of the Congregational order—Edward H. Jones, Andrew Mearns, Charles Winter, and the deacons of the churches under their care—as a slight mark of their sincere appreciation of his personal character, his thorough brotherliness, and his self-denying labours for the good of others, Nov. 20, 1873." Mr. Bartlett, senior deacon at Trevor Chapel, bore testimony to the esteem in which Mr. Davis was held by the office-bearers and congregation in that place. The chairman then presented Mr. Davis with a handsome portrait album, a gift from the Rev. Frank White, of Chelsea Baptist Chapel, who is at present in Geneva. Professor White, late superintendent of the Sunday-school at Onslow, presented a gold watch, the gift of the children, by whom Mr. Davis is much beloved; and the present superintendent presented a gold brooch for Mrs. Davis, from the young women of her Bible-class. The speeches and the gifts together formed a striking and most agreeable testimony to the favourable impression which Mr. Davis has made upon all with whom he has come into contact during his four years' ministry at Brompton. Gratitude was expressed on all hands for what he has been, not only to the people of his charge, but also to the neighbouring ministers and congregations; and it was evident that Dunedin will henceforth be much thought of by many in Brompton, since it is about to become the scene of Mr. Davis's ministry. The departing minister made a touching reply to the numerous expressions of goodwill, and closed with an earnest exhortation and a hearty "good-bye." He then commended all present to God in prayer. Mr. Davis sails from the Thames for Dunedin to-day.

Correspondence.

THE WESLEYANS AND THE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In your last issue, in commenting upon the late Birmingham School Board election, you referred to the conduct of the Wesleyans in separating themselves from other Nonconformists as unreasonable, and further you expressed the opinion that the position of their candidate (Mr. Wm. Warlow, not the Rev. C. Warlow) at the bottom of the poll was "well-merited." Will you allow me, as one of them, to say that the Wesleyans in Birmingham, like Messrs. C. Reed, S. Morley, E. Baines, and Dr. Angus, and other eminent Nonconformists, not Wesleyans, are not prepared for the total exclusion of the Bible from the ordinary daily lessons in board schools, and therefore could not support the "Liberal Eight," who advocate the plan of the League. On the other hand, we are also opposed to payments to denominational schools out of the rates, and therefore could not support the candidates of the Church party. Under these circumstances I do not think it surprising or unreasonable that we should have started a candidate of our own, and have invited the suffrages of those outside our own denomination who agreed with our principle—an invitation which was by no means entirely disregarded. With regard to our want of success, I believe this is mainly to be ascribed to the widespread opinion among all parties—which opinion was industriously fostered by canvassers for the "Liberal Eight"—that Mr. Warlow would be at the head of the poll, and therefore multitudes abstained from voting for him, notwithstanding their agreement with his principles.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
THOMAS H. SMITH.

Lee Bank-road, Birmingham, Nov. 22, 1873.

[In the present case the Wesleyans were of course entitled to take an isolated position, though a large number of the members of that body preferred to act with the Liberal party. Do we find Messrs. Reed, Morley, &c., separating themselves from their Liberal friends? We may ask why have the Wesleyans put forward denominational candidates in other towns, such as Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, and Bradford, where the Bible is not, nor is it likely to be, excluded from board schools? We can find no adequate grounds for such a policy unless the wish to act as covert allies of the Church of England and Roman Catholics be a sufficient reason. We are glad to say that that unseemly course is meeting with signal defeat. Thus at Leeds and Bradford the Wesleyan candidates were nowhere on the poll. Mr. Smith and those who agree with him would do well to ponder well the remarks of Mr. Angus Holden (himself a Wesleyan) at the close of the Bradford nomination. Mr. Holden said he had from the first deprecated the course taken by the Wesleyans "with all his might and main. The general idea of that ticket was to place men on the board who should

represent the various classes of Wesleyans, and so get Wesleyans to vote as Wesleyans, irrespective of party principles. He did not think that was a question of creed or religious belief, but of principle, and he trusted that that course would never be repeated again. No doubt a considerable number of votes had been lost to the Liberal candidates from that cause, but in future, he hoped, matters would be so arranged that they would get a united Liberal ticket." As it is, all the Wesleyan candidates were rejected, and if it be any satisfaction to them, their separate action prevented the return of two more Liberals for Bradford.—*En. Noncon.*]

THE BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL BOARD CONTEST.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In your notice of the Birmingham School Board contest you unknowingly do an injustice to the efforts made by the Liberal party here. Mr. Dixon's majority over the highest Conservative was 9,664 votes, while the majority of the lowest Liberal was 4,094 votes over the highest Conservative.

There is another fact in connection with the contest which is significant. The Conservatives polled at the recent election 44,135 more votes than they did in 1870, but the Liberals have polled 71,008 more votes than they did at the first election. This is conclusive as to the tendency of opinion in Birmingham.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS ADAMS.

Secretary of the National Education League.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.—MARYLEBONE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I have just received a card, of which the enclosed is a copy, which seems intended wilfully to impose upon those who are really ignorant of what they are doing. Of course, it is only of a piece with the miserable tactics of the "priestly party." Perhaps you may be able to make some reference which may do good in your issue forthcoming.

Believe me, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

D. JAMES LEGG.

18, Mornington-road, N.W., Nov. 24, 1873.

London School Board.—Committee for securing the return of Dr. Irons. Parish of St. Pancras—Ward 4. Election on Thursday, Nov. 27, 1873. Your voting place will be Christ Church Schools, Redhill-street. Open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Directions for voting.—You will receive at the polling place a voting paper, on which is a list of all the candidates. Write opposite Dr. Irons' name. You have seven votes, and cannot give more; you must not sign your own name.

MR. MIALI, M.P.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I am requested to forward to you the enclosed resolution, which was duly proposed and seconded and unanimously passed at the conference of the quarterly meeting of the Congregational Union of Monmouthshire, held at Risca on the 17th and 18th of this month, the Rev. D. Glyn Davies, of Risca, being in the chair. Will you please to insert it in the *Nonconformist* paper?

I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

W. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Abercarn, near Newport, Mon., Nov. 19, 1873.

That this conference expresses its deepest sympathy with E. Miall, Esq., M.P., on account of his failing health, and trusts and prays that it will be speedily restored.

SALE OF A LIVING.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—At one o'clock to-morrow (Thursday), Messrs. Beadell will sell, at their auction-room, Tokenhouse-yard, near the Bank, the living of Water-Stratford. Water-Stratford is an agricultural place with a population of 200; the income of the living is 446l. 5s., or about 2l. 4s. per head. It has been sold and re-sold again; in fact, this is a re-sale, the present proprietor not choosing to take advantage of his rights, "because the clergyman for whom it was bought has received other preferment." I could give you a history of the living, which once belonged to the Duke of Buckingham, and was sold with his other chattels and effects—but *cui bono*? The sale is to be at one to-morrow, and any one who cares to see how souls are sold can then see it.

Yours faithfully,

H. S. S.

SIGNOR GRASSI.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—After a sojourn of ten weeks in the midst of Roman Catholicism, it was most refreshing to pick up a number of the *Nonconformist*. But judge of my surprise when it opened on the page which contains a paragraph about Signor, or to give him his military title, Chevalier Grassi. You rightly guard us against making the affair too dramatic. But it was rather difficult for those of us who were at Rome at the time to keep our enthusiasm within reasonable bounds. The very circumstances made the story dramatic. The resignation of his position and emoluments—his touching

farewell to his brother priests—his narrow escape from the dangerous snare laid for him at the Vatican—the bold step he took of obeying the summons to appear before the Inquisition—and lastly his preaching in the Baptist mission-room, almost under the shadow of St. Peter's, made it intensely interesting, and even exciting for those who knew what was going on. Indeed, the excitement once grew painful. For as a small party of us were together in the room which has been kindly provided by Samuel Morley, Esq., a message came to say that it would not be safe for Signor Grassi to remain longer with us—that men had been hired to assassinate him; but that if he would leave at once, there was a guard outside waiting to escort him home. He then left us in company with the Rev. Mr. Wall, the Baptist missionary. You may be sure that we were rather anxious about him until on the following day we were assured of his safety.

With respect to the verbal report of what Signor Grassi said before the Inquisition, which you could not understand, I think the correspondent of the *Freeman* has taken it from a letter which he read or partly read before the Inquisitors, and left on the table. And one night as I was sauntering down the Corso, near the Piazza Colonna, I heard some men shouting for sale the printed copies of this very letter.

But with all this stir, Signor Grassi maintains the same calmness, and is fully absorbed in the truth which has been his salvation. Evidently a man of fine, gentlemanly susceptibilities, he is modest and retiring to the last degree. With all the courage of a soldier, he has also the quiet resolution and perseverance of the Christian. And the conversion of such a man has been a great blow to the Romish Church, and of course as great a blessing to the Baptist mission. And our Baptist friends have cause for much congratulation in their mission there. The Rev. Mr. Wall is doing a good work in Rome—unostentatiously perhaps, but none the less efficiently. He has been to Signor Grassi, in the highest sense, a "guide, philosopher, and friend." And he has been conspicuously rewarded in his work. But he has also hope of further successes. From what I learned before I left, Signor Grassi's conversion is only the beginning of a good movement among his brother-priests. But there are difficulties in the way. Some of them might I think be removed by the prompt action of our Baptist friends. And this brings me to the chief purpose of my letter. It is seen how Signor Grassi fares at the hands of the Church he has left, but how will he fare at the hands of the Church he has joined! This is the sort of question that seems to be waiting an answer. Signor Grassi has given up no small position and emoluments for conscience' sake. He has become poor.

I am sure the simple statement of this fact will suggest the remedy. And perhaps it may move some of my Congregational brethren to help in a good work.

Yours truly,
GEORGE S. ORDISH.

Little Lever, Bolton, Nov. 17, 1873.

P.S.—I may say that any substantial sympathy might be forwarded through the Rev. Mr. Wall, the Baptist missionary at Rome.

FOREIGN MISSION WORK.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—The question raised by your correspondent "W. G. L." in your issue of the 12th instant—"Does foreign missionary work occupy the position it should in the thought and interest of our churches?" deserves grave consideration, and must, I believe, be answered in the negative.

In the majority of our smaller churches there is no periodical recognition of the duty and importance of missionary effort. In our medium-sized and larger churches the recognition often consists of but one service in the year. In the majority of our churches the interest is confined to a few, and the contributions do not often reach that amount which the cause is supposed to demand. How seldom are missionary topics discussed in our periodicals or lectures on them investigated with interest!

How is this? Is heathenism a slight evil? Is Christianity a religion pagans are almost as well without? Is the problem of the world's conversion hardly worth consideration? Have missions slight claims on the confidence, sympathy, and aid of Christians generally? To all such surmises an emphatic and conclusive denial could be given. But missions have not that high place in the churches' regard of which they are worthy. Like "W. G. L.," I have regretted the frequent omission of all missionary topics from the programme of the Congregational Union meetings. It was pleasant last May to listen to brethren from America, from Italy, from France, from Belgium, and from Bohemia, telling us of the good work in these countries. And equally pleasant to have representatives frequently from Ireland, Scotland, and our colonies. But why not hear and welcome messengers, if not annually, yet frequently, from South Africa, Madagascar, Polynesia, India, China, and the West Indies. In all these regions we now have churches not a few. Why not give a day, as our Baptist brethren did at their Union gatherings in October, to one aspect or other of this grand enterprise which is so closely identified with the glory of the Church of Christ and

the condition and destiny of two-thirds of the human race!

Faithfully yours,
E. S.

CONGREGATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—Inquiry having been made about this scheme on the part of pastors and deacons of churches, may we ask you to afford space for a few words on the subject? The appended "Directors' Explanation" gives reasons for which it was some while since decided not to start the proposed insurance office. We now are happy to add that the directors and other promoters, after paying all expenses incurred, presented Mr. Gallaway with 100 guineas, to mark their appreciation of his gratuitous and earnest labours during four years past.

Although the affair is thus at an end, nothing has occurred to throw doubt on the soundness of the principle, looking at our trust property alone. And if to this were added the private property of members of our churches, the total insurance business might become a valuable permanent provision for beneficial uses.

We are, Sir, yours faithfully,
W. CAMPBELL.
CHARLES E. CONDER.

November, 1873.

DIRECTORS' EXPLANATION.

The scheme of Congregational Fire Insurance originated with the committee of the Congregational Union of England and Wales; at whose request the Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., read a paper on the subject in May, 1869. The assembly appointed a special committee to prepare a scheme, and report at the ensuing autumnal meeting. This was done; and it was thereupon resolved that, as soon as a certain Guarantee Fund be obtained, all further action be left with the churches.

A Guarantee Fund of 20,000*l.* was at length secured, but the responses from churches proposing to insure were so limited, that at two successive meetings of guarantors it was agreed to include the insurance of private dwellings and contents. To justify this extension of the scheme, it was decided to increase the capital, and at the same time widen and perpetuate the constituency by forming the association (under the guidance of counsel's opinion) according to the provisions of the Limited Liability Act.

The directors, however, after much thought and inquiry, came at length to the conclusion that it was inexpedient to include insurance of *private dwellings and contents*; and that the apparent indifference of the denomination to the scheme gave little hope of adequate results for beneficial purposes from insurance of trust property alone, and therefore, for the present, the business will not be proceeded with.

The directors feel it would not be right to close this statement without acknowledging the care and devotedness shown by Mr. Gallaway ever since he was desired by the committee of the union to take up the matter. Correspondence, journeys, and meetings, compiling valuable statistics, completing the guarantee fund, preparing the scheme, securing directors, and getting share capital subscribed for, have involved much labour, which he has freely rendered, in the firm conviction that the project was essentially sound, and lacked only the hearty response of the churches to make it productive of much ultimate good.

A. ALLOTT, Sheffield,
FREDK. BIDGOOD, London,
WILLIAM HENRY CONYERS, Leeds,
THOMAS COOTE, St. Ives,
JOHN CROSSLEY, Halifax,
EDWARD GRIMWADE, Ipswich,
JNO. J. JENKINS, Swansea,
ROBERT SINCLAIR, London,
JOSEPH SPENCER, Manchester.

Directors.

3, Blomfield-street, London-wall, London, E.C.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

MEETING OF NONCONFORMISTS IN EXETER HALL.

An aggregate meeting of the friends of unsectarian education, convened by the London Nonconformist Committee, was held in Exeter Hall on Wednesday evening last, and was well attended. One of the main objects of the meeting was in order to protest against the attempted interference of the clergy of the Church of England with the work of the School Board for London, and to urge electors to vote for candidates at the forthcoming election who will maintain against denominationalism the compromise arrived at by the board in regard to religious teaching.

The chair was taken by Henry Wright, Esq., and on the platform were influential representatives, ministers, and laymen, of the various Nonconformist denominations in the different school board districts.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said they had been called together that evening to rebut the extraordinary statements made at a meeting of the Church party recently held in St. James's Hall, and to frustrate the attempts made by what he hoped and believed was a small section of the Church, to upset and reverse the practical, impartial, and unsectarian policy of the existing board. He was thoroughly ashamed, as a Christian and an Englishman, of the reckless statements made by noble lords, clergymen, and gentlemen at the meeting to which he had alluded, and he believed their very recklessness and untruth would carry with them their own refutation.

The SECRETARY read letters apologising for the absence of the Rev. Dr. Allon, Dr. Landels, the

Rev. A. Hannay, and Dr. Brock. The last-named said that should this attempt of the clergy succeed, other attempts would follow in the same direction; "and, bad as things already are touching an arrogant and domineering priesthood, they will get worse and worse. Need verily have we to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, for the ecclesiastical determination has been taken and will be carried out to entangle us again with the yoke of bondage."

The Rev. J. G. ROGERS, of Clapham, who was received with great cheering, moved the following resolution:—

That in the presence of an organised attempt on the part of the clergy and their denominational supporters to prevent the establishment of unsectarian schools, this meeting recognises the imperative duty of all friends of popular education to unite in supporting the School Board of London in its efforts to provide for the educational wants of the metropolis by effective board schools.

He said he attended that meeting with feelings of shame and humiliation to think that after the Education Act had been in operation for the last three years, and the London School Board had effected a compromise upon what was called the religious difficulty, they were that evening to battle against the proposed aggressions of the Church, which was endeavouring to place the education of the poor in the hands of the priests. (Cheers.) He blamed Mr. Forster for not having the courage to face and settle the religious difficulty in Parliament, instead of leaving that question as a bone of contention between school boards and the ratepayers. (Hear, hear.) They were coming at last to understand the true question at issue. Their opponents could not say that they were going in for the use of the Bible in schools against those opposed to its use. They were indeed in London going on for sectarian instruction in opposition to Biblical teaching. ("True!" and applause.) The London School Board had initiated an important system of education. He did not approve fully of the compromise on which it had agreed and acted, but in the present case the Secularists were called upon to defend the board against the clergy, whose movement had been well described as "the campaign of the priests," who were seeking to obtain a monopoly of education, and to prevent the people from having it in their own hands. (Cheers.)

A friend of mine went into St. Paul's last Sunday evening, and he was treated there to a very interesting discourse on the text, "The times will come when men will not give heed to sound doctrine"; and the people who won't give heed to sound doctrine are the unfortunate Dissenters, who are endeavouring to maintain school boards. (Laughter.) I happen to know in my own neighbourhood that if clergymen do not choose to support these candidates, their names are employed by the canvassers without their consent. I know of one distinct case of a friend of mine, a clergyman of the Church of England, who told me that canvassers were going about in his district saying that they came from him, and that he wished to support the Church candidates, when he studiously kept aloof from the contest, and would have nothing to do with the gentlemen. That is another of the tricks that has been employed. ("Shame.")

It was not simply Nonconformists that the clerical organisation was opposing. They were endeavouring to put out good Churchmen like Mr. Currie, Mr. Tabrum, and the Rev. John Rodgers. One of these grounds of action was economy. But if they wanted economy let them take a slice out of the immense revenues of the National Church—(loud cheers)—given for the religious instruction of the people, and use them for the purpose for which they were given, and they could also use the vast endowments given for the education of the poor which had been perverted for their proper purpose. Mr. Rogers went on to advert to the wild talk on this subject, and especially to a recent speech made by Mr. W. H. Smith, the member for Westminster, who had done good service on the London Board.

Mr. Smith, in a meeting last week, told the people that if our views were carried out the 300,000 children which are at present in voluntary schools—those voluntary schools that have cost the nation 10,000,000*l.* of money—(laughter)—would require upwards of 400,000*l.* a year for the purpose of educating them, and that will impose a tax of a shilling in the pound upon the whole of the ratepayers of London. Well, that is rather a serious prospect. If it be true, you might conclude, in the first instance, that the supporters of these schools were at present contributing 400,000*l.*, which you would have to make good. Do you believe that they are? (Cries of "No, no.") Why, the entire amount of subscriptions to voluntary schools throughout the kingdom does not reach 500,000*l.*, and therefore you may be quite sure 400,000*l.* of it does not come from London. But look at it again. Of this 400,000*l.* which these children may cost, Mr. Smith knows perfectly well that a large proportion—about one-half—is at present paid out of the national exchequer, and would be paid out of the national exchequer under any circumstances; no matter who manages these schools, that part of the cost remains untouched. He knows that a very large proportion besides is contributed by the parents of the children in the shape of fees; and yet, forgetting all this, he turns round and tells us it would cost us 400,000*l.* to do a thing which we are not proposing to do. Nobody has ever proposed to shut up these schools. It would cost us 400,000*l.* to replace the contributions, which do not amount—I do not hesitate to say—to one-sixth of the figure he has taken. Well, there is our excellent friend, Canon Gregory. (Laughter, hisses, and cheers.) Canon Gregory is, no doubt, a wise and honourable man—(Hear, hear)—there can be no doubt about that. I do not say he has shown a reason in answering us, but still no doubt, the reason remains behind. Canon Gregory and his party told the people of London that the voluntary schools cost them nothing. But I find the following items in relation to certain schools in Lambeth. St. Mary-the-Less is a parish of which, I believe, Canon

Gregory knows something, and the schools in that district connected with St. Mary-the-Less cost, last year, 343*l*. 15*s*. out of the National Exchequer, so it is useless to tell us they cost nothing. I find schools immediately adjoining called St. Mary's, Hercules-buildings. I do not know who is connected with them, but they belong to the Denominationalists; they cost 732*l*. 13*s*.—nearly 1,200*l*. taken from the national funds for these schools alone in the course of last year. Very well, do not come and tell us these schools cost nothing. (Hear, hear.) It is simply hoodwinking the people. (Cheers.) It is endeavouring to ride off on what I cannot designate anything better than a mere quibble. (Renewed cheers.) Of course they do not cost the rates anything, yet they will do, if the 25th clause can be made to work as some gentlemen wish it to work. But at present they do not. So all these hundreds of pounds, and the million of money which constitutes about the amount of the parliamentary grant—all these things are treated as nothing, and you are told that these voluntary schools are supported by voluntary contributions; so you might think, and therefore you ought to stand by them.

After giving some further illustrations on the subject drawn from Manchester, he said that the plea of economy was the very reason they should vote against these men who came forward and deliberately asked them to starve the education of the people. (Cheers.) The next plea was an equally remarkable one—and that was, that they were extremely anxious for the freedom of conscience—

The party who, up to 1860, resolutely refused to have a conscience clause introduced into their schools at any price; the party who tell us now that it is a grievance from which they suffer that they are obliged to have a conscience clause; the party of whom Mr. Bowstead, one of Her Majesty's inspectors, tells us that, on one or two occasions when he had paid surprise visits to schools, he has found the time-table evaded and the conscience clause disobeyed—these are the gentlemen that tell us that they, forsooth! are concerned for the freedom of conscience! And our excellent friend, Canon Miller, who ought to have been in better company, says he has been a Liberal all his life, and he says, "For a thorough act of tyranny commend me to an ultra-Liberal. This attempt to force children into schools of which their parents disapprove is an act of abominable tyranny." Let us look at that for a moment. It is a remarkable conscience, by the way, that insists that it must be aggrieved unless it is allowed in some way to make people pay for the advancement of its interests and instruction, and I am bound to say it is a conscience that has not been found extensively among the poor people of this country. It is a conscience which is to a large extent a creation of those who use the plea for the purpose of advancing their own peculiar objects. However, I want to know whether this right of conscience is a right that belongs only to Churchmen, or whether Nonconformists have it also. Here is a case in regard to Canon Gregory. He has got schools in Lambeth—High Church schools—but there may be some Dissenting parents in Lambeth, and yet Canon Gregory comes and says it is a shameful act of extravagance if the school board puts down other schools where his are. That is, that though it would be very wrong to send a Church child into a school where the Church catechism is not taught, it is perfectly right, and not a violation of conscience at all, to force all the Dissenting children of that district into his schools where he reigns supreme, and where the Church catechism is taught. Why, that is what is being done all over the country; and we are not very much surprised that it should be done in country districts, because there there is not a great amount of the power of public opinion brought to bear; but that it should be attempted in London, in the very centre of civilisation, in the very focus of Liberal power and principle, in the very midst of our intelligence and our freedom—that it should be attempted here is an outrage upon the metropolis, and an outrage upon conscience. (Cheers.)

His own chief reason for opposing the denominationalists on this question was because this attempt to convert their schools into sectarian institutions was preventing the efficiency of the schools themselves. The status of the schoolmaster was degraded by the denominational system, as was shown by quotations from the advertisements in the organ of the National Society. The truth was, the national schoolmaster was made a kind of assistant of the clergyman. He did certain work for the clergyman, which nobody else could do so efficiently; and education itself was crippled, cramped, and hindered in consequence of this miserable attempt to do two things—to educate the people, but at the same time to make them "good Churchmen." If they wanted to do a thing well, they must give a man to it who would devote his whole heart to it, who would live to teach the children; and they could not get that except under a thorough and efficient board school system. Then these gentlemen wanted "definite religious teaching"—

They want you to pay on the one side of the street for the teaching of truth which, on the opposite side of the street, is declared to be deadly and destructive error; and that is the kind of thing for which they are asking you to withdraw your confidence from the school board. And then, at the head of all this, stands my Lord Shaftesbury. But, sir, Saul among the prophets was a very remarkable spectacle; but Lord Shaftesbury among the priests is not only remarkable, but sad and humiliating. (Hisses and applause; continued interruption.) I want to give you just one little incident of personal history. It is only a few weeks ago since I was called upon to respond to an appeal which was made by a committee called the Vigilance Committee, which has undertaken the very necessary and the very important task of saving this country from the demoralising teaching of a certain portion of the clergy in the Anglican Church. The first signature to that address was "Shaftesbury, Chairman;" and one of the requests to us as Congregationalists was this, that we would come and help them to contend against the schools in which public money was being spent for the purpose of educating children in the doctrines and practices of the Church of Rome. Well, sir, I have got Lord Shaftesbury's invitation, and am here to do battle against such schools. (Loud applause.) But, strange to

say, I find Lord Shaftesbury doing battle against me, and wondering what the Nonconformists are doing who are simply following his own behests. Is this the kind of consistency that we have a right to expect? Will this save Protestantism? (Applause.) Will this advance religious education? Will this really Christianise the people of this country? Will this recommend the principles for which we are so anxious to contend? Gentlemen, Lord Shaftesbury may take care of his consistency as he pleases, but we will take care that he does not tempt us to violate ours. (Loud applause.) Well, sir, I do not know what the issue of this contest may be. I do not believe that the people of London are going to be deceived and bamboozled by the sort of tales which have been told them—tales fitted to frighten old women and babies, but not fit to appeal to rational men. But this I do say, for the clergy, this is a matter of infinite importance. Defeated now you defeat them for ever. (Applause.) Baffle them now, assert the right of the people to educate the children themselves now, sustain the board now, and the power is gone, and they have no strength for any future contest. But if we are defeated I grant that an injury will be done to national education. I feel that this work will be hindered, I feel that the benevolent action of the board must be arrested—you and your children must suffer, but not we! Our principles do not die! The forces of the age are with us, the power of time, the Great Educator is on our side; and though we should be defeated now, we simply rise to renew the strife, and to carry it on from election to election till we win a complete and glorious victory. (Loud applause.)

Mr. JAMES HEYWOOD, F.R.S., seconded the resolution, and congratulated the meeting upon the signal triumph obtained by the Liberal and Unsectarian party at the school board election at Birmingham.

The resolution was carried with three dissentients amid loud cheering.

Mr. THOMAS SCRUTTON, a member of the London School Board, moved the second resolution:—

That this meeting emphatically condemns the misleading statistics and statements of the supporters of the denominational schools, and records its conviction that the action of the board had been marked by a due regard to economy as well as efficiency, and has largely increased the attendance at schools which it is charged with seeking to destroy.

Defending the action of the school board, he said they were met now to deal with one of the greatest attempts of modern times to interfere with the education of the people. What seemed to be a large sum spent by the board was really only half the cost of the Thames Embankment, and one-fourth the cost of a new street, while the expense to each individual ratepayer was hardly more than the cost of a cab home on a wet day. They had also the testimony of the architect of the Education Department that these estimates were "very moderate, considerably less than most other towns." Then the Act required efficient schools, and no one had questioned the efficiency of the board schools. Those schools that pretended to do the work were very bad indeed, for they had official information, that out of 2,000,000 children on the school rolls in England, the number who can read with fluency, write a short note, do the first four rules of arithmetic and compound fractions was 8,819, and that is all. ("Shame.") Well they found that if every efficient school in London was filled, there would still be some 112,000 children requiring school accommodation. The board set to work, and the result of its action was to add to the school accommodation twenty thousand new places; and yet, all that being taken into account, and every efficient school being regarded as full, there was left, at the end of it, over one hundred thousand children who could not have been able to find school accommodation. This, then, was the position in which they were found. Now, what was the action of voluntary schools?

They were obliged to raise their fees, they lost their subscriptions—happily some of them were larger than what were quoted to you, or else they could not have been much—the voluntary schools were obliged to raise their fees; but more than this, they actually refused to take in little children who were not properly clothed or had shoes or stockings on. (Applause.) I do not say for a moment that a school charging 6*d*. a week can be expected to let in a troop of little ragged folks; but I do say that to object to the erection of board schools when the others will not take in the children was a most unjust action. (Cheers.) Therefore the erection of the board schools became a necessity. (Renewed cheers.) Then we proceeded to put in force our compulsory law. There is no law any use without a penalty; no educational system will thrive without we have the power of compelling children to attend. (Cheers.) Now, at the end of three years what do we find? We find that we have sent into these schools—voluntary and board schools—60,000 children in addition to what were in before. (Cheers.) And we can tell you that out of that 60,000, we had sent into voluntary schools—mind you, voluntary schools we are charged with seeking to destroy—33,164. (Renewed cheers.) So that we are accused of performing that famous juggling trick of emptying a school by filling it—(laughter)—and we have sent into board schools 26,261, making altogether 59,425. Now, we say distinctly to all those voluntary managers, "We challenge you to bring your accounts. (Hear, hear.) Canon Gregory does not bring one. ("Hear, hear," cheers, and hisses.) Cannon Miller does not bring one. I have never yet—and I have been spouting about evening after evening for the last fortnight—(laughter)—I never yet found the man who has brought one. (Cheers.) But there is such a thing as a blue-book, and in the blue-book we can look and see them for ourselves, and I can tell you that, in the Tower Hamlets alone, the voluntary schools have received, comparing 1872 against 1870, thousands of pounds in addition from the Government. There is not a school, speaking generally with regard to its attendance, which is not infinitely in a better condition than it was before the passing of the Act. And yet they have the audacity, I call it, to stand up and say we are seeking to destroy their voluntary schools. If there is a voluntary school

that has gone back during three years, I will venture to risk my reputation that it arises out of one of two or three causes; they have either put their voluntary school into a neighbourhood that did not admit of a sufficient number of children coming in at the rate they put their fees. A school in a neighbourhood of poor children with a fee of 6*d*. cannot fill. (Hear, hear.) There are not children enough to pay the fee to make it fill. They have either done this—put themselves into a position they ought not to have done—or the teaching is bad. And there are no people quicker to tell when they are well taught than the parents of the children of the poor. (Hear, hear.) Now, I make no chance shot. I tell them distinctly that that is the issue we take—that if they are not efficient, and are not better off in their attendance, it is their own fault. Hear, hear.) Now then, this is the matter so far as I have to do with the voluntary schools. Their true position is to do what a number of voluntary schools have done—put themselves in thorough sympathy with the board—form part of our scheme for putting a proper class of schools throughout the several districts, by which I mean penny, twopenny, threepenny, and fourpenny schools spread over the district, then these voluntary schools will come in as the tip-top schools of the neighbourhood. (Interruption.) Our friend does not understand the question, I am sure of that. Our resolution also leads to their misleading statements and statistics. They tell us in the voluntary schools in London there are 100,000 places, and have coupled that with the fact that they want accommodation for 100,000 children, and they say, "All you have to do is to put your 100,000 children into 100,000 places," and they are never tired of telling us this. You hear it at every meeting talked about all over the place. And what is it worth! To say nothing of this that the 100,000 is supposing all their schools to be full, if they took any care to study our reports and find out the facts without trying to alter statements to suit themselves, they would find that 100,000 efficient places is not the fact, but that the real truth is—from 86,000 to 87,000. Now, when we come to look at these 86,000 or 87,000 places, how do they arise? It would be that 38,000 of them are in schools placed by themselves in neighbourhoods where they are not wanted. (Hear, hear.) And what arises out of this? Why, that these voluntary school people, so long as they could get it, got money to help them—(interruption)—to build their schools, and never made inquiries in the neighbourhoods where they put them whether they were wanted or not; and so, when we come to look at London as a whole, we have 38,000 school places where the necessities of the district do not require them at all. (Cheers.) And then this other fact comes out of it also, that whilst the voluntary school managers failed to put a school within a quarter of a mile, although there is such a hullabaloo as you never heard, they will allow these people to put these places where they are not wanted, and they have never uttered a single complaint or cry against it. Now, this is the way in which to treat their statement. It is no use to say that there is a surplus of accommodation to the extent of 10,000 in Paddington to supply a deficiency in the Tower Hamlets. That is the sort of thing that they want you to believe. When men like Canon Gregory and others come forward, they are bound (for they are not ignorant men) to be commonly careful that their statements are accurate. (Cheers.) I charge them distinctly with making statements without due care and consideration, and they repeat them again and again; and I should not wonder if to-morrow night they repeat the same thing, that there are still 100,000 places deficient in London. I hope if you meet them you will answer them. And when we try their little facts, you will find them just the same. Canon Gregory said at St. James's Hall, "They are placing schools where they are not wanted. Look at the school at Millwall for 933 children, and only 257 in it." Well, it looked rather black. But Canon Gregory forgot to count 209 girls. (Laughter.) He forgot to tell you that the school had only been opened a month. ("Oh! oh!") Now from a man like Canon Gregory that ought not to be. (Hear, hear.) He might have found it out just as early as I. I had to inquire. It is in no Blue-book. Here was a school for 933 children, and only 257 boys were said to be in attendance. He might have asked something about the girls. The fact was that one of the rooms was not quite in order, and 209 girls were moved into temporary premises. The returns were made when the girls were absent, and the canon says "Over-building!" I would venture, if time permitted, to take you all through their statements, and show you that they are just as incorrect. They are worded on purpose to mislead you. I do not hesitate to say so. Get hold of a document circulated throughout London, printed by Spottiswoode and Co. A more misleading document has not seen the light for many a day. (Hear, hear.) It is used all over London, and the names of candidates are printed at the foot. They objected through Lord Salisbury to our sites, and they stopped the passage of a bill for eighty sites, and it was necessary to have an inquiry before the House of Lords. Canon Gregory marshalled his facts, as he thought; the inquiry was held, and they did not succeed in objecting satisfactorily to a single site. (Hear, hear.) Let me finish what I have to say by reading a certificate of character. It is not every one who can bring up a duke, an earl, and a viscount to give him a certificate. This is what the Duke of Cleveland says of the school board: "The question was whether, in carrying out the Act, there had been any violation of its principle, or any steps taken which were not justified by the circumstances of the case. In his opinion, there was no evidence to justify such a charge, and he thought that the case of his noble friend, the Marquis of Salisbury, had entirely broken down." (Hear, hear.) Lord Harrowby "thought that the evidence brought before the committee proved that the charge against the London School Board, that they had rashly endeavoured to cover London with schools where schools were not wanted, was not well founded. They seemed to him to have taken great pains to ascertain what was really required with reference to school accommodation. He did not mean to say that they had not committed an error here and there (nor does anybody). "The best of men are but men at the best. No evidence whatever was brought before the committee to show that they had acted on a principle which disregarded the existence of voluntary schools." Viscount Eversley winds up by saying, "So far as he could judge, he thought the conduct of the school

boards was free from all blame, and that they deserved the thanks of the public." (Cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. KENNEDY, of Stepney, in seconding the resolution, said that not having accepted the League platform he felt all the more bound to protest against the gross injustice with which it was treated in the charge that the League party had entered into a conspiracy against the Bible—although many of them would be as prepared to die for the Bible as Lord Shaftesbury. (Cheers.) Reference had been made at St. James's Hall to the consciences of paupers, and his experience at the East End was that the conscience of the pauper was religiously respected, though his fees were paid out of the rates.—

If he may prefer to send his children to a denominational school, without the interference of the school board, good and well. Of course he chooses his own school. But the school board comes and finds a parent to whom conscience is such that he can go on year by year, neglecting the education of his children, and the school board says to that man, "You must send your children to school." Immediately the man's conscience is pricked, and he awakes and says, "If I send my children to school, they must go to such and such a school." The board say, "If we have to pay for your children, we will send them to a school where your children are taught A B C, and certain other things that are necessary." But the parent says, "No, I cannot send my children to a school; my conscience won't let me send my children to a school where A B C are taught unless the catechism is taught as well." (Laughter.) Well, it seems to me a parent might just as well say, "I won't let you put shoes on the feet of my children, and won't let you put clothes on the backs of my children, unless you teach them the catechism." How it can offend the conscience of any man to have his children taught to read and write and count, is a thing I never could make out.

The speaker was much struck with some of the remarkable omissions at the St. James's Hall meeting. No one, for instance, recalled the fact that the diocesan society had set down the educational destitution of London at 150,000. No one had thought it worth while to point out that the London Board had sent 33,000 children to the "voluntary schools;" nor had any one tried to show that under the present system Bible teaching was in danger. Suppose there were no compulsion, how would the children be got to school? Yet there were difficulties in the way.

At the end of a little street in my neighbourhood there is a large National School. At the other end there is—shall I call it a denominational school, for want of a better name? It is a school connected with my own congregation, although in that school there never has been denominational teaching of any kind whatsoever—never any teaching there but just the teaching which the school board gives in its schools. But recently children were refused admission into that National School at the other end of that little Garden-street, because they were not sufficiently well clothed, and they came begging at our school doors to be admitted there. The rector of Stepney, under whose presidency that school exists, is now actively canvassing the Tower Hamlets to put out one or other of such men as Mr. Scrutton from the board. ("Shame.") How impossible it is to use compulsion in these cases. Till within the last few weeks the lowest fee of that school was fourpence. Within the last few weeks, in consequence of the opening of a school in Johnson-street—the best school in London it is declared to be by those who visit it, but a school which is held up as a spectre before the eyes of the ratepayers to frighten them from all confidence in the school board—within the last few weeks, I say, this National School has lowered its fee to twopenny. But until the last few weeks no child in Stepney could enter that school without paying fourpence at the least. That is not the only difficulty. There is another difficulty, and it shall be brought out. One of the schools in our neighbourhood was built perhaps two years ago. It is not a quarter filled now, I believe. Within a hundred yards of it, about twelve months ago, a board school was opened, and within two weeks in that new board school there were 600 children. How comes it to pass? There are two reasons. One is that the fee in the National School I have referred to was too high, the neighbourhood being a very, very poor one. The other was that the people of the neighbourhood have an inveterate prejudice against the clergyman, whom they regard as an extreme Ritualist, whom they talk of as a Roman Catholic in disguise. (Loud cheers.) The poor people of that neighbourhood would not have sent their children to that school if you had opened the door without any fee whatsoever, and yet the school board is charged with committing an unpardonable sin in opening that board school so near to the school which, as I have told you, is but a quarter filled. How could the school board use this compulsory power to send children to such a school as I have mentioned?

At the St. James's Hall meeting the Bishop of London presided, and Canon Gregory was one of the speakers. Both agreed that what they wanted was a sound and distinctly religious education.—

Now, unless my memory be utterly at fault, the Bishop of London, very shortly after the Bennett decision, issued a pastoral warning his clergy against certain Ritualistic practices—I think, almost threatening them with proceedings if they indulged in those practices; and Canon Gregory bearded his bishop, and, in connection with another canon, replied to the bishop, challenging him to do his worst. There is the bishop and the canon at war with each other on this question, and yet the bishop demands "sound and distinctly religious instruction." (Cheers and laughter.) I should like the bishop and Canon Gregory to be closeted for a couple of hours, and quietly over a table come to some understanding as to what definite religious teaching they would have in their schools. (Cheers.) I venture to say that if they can agree on the subject they will produce a scheme which even my friend, Mr. Rogers, with all his—"Radicalism" (shall I call it?) would accept; and I may say we should all be prepared to accept it too. Well, now, take another case. There is our good friend, Canon Miller, who moved a resolution,

and our good friend, Canon Gregory, who seconded it. I need not tell you that a more pronounced Evangelical than Canon Miller, there does not exist in the Church of England. A more pronounced Ritualist or Anglo-Catholic does not exist than Canon Gregory. Canon Miller, in St. James's Hall, said that on one point the Church of England, if tested, would not be found to be wanting—"Feed My lambs." He would enter a verdict for the Church of England in regard to that matter. Whatever else had been neglected, the Church of England had done its duty in feeding the lambs. When I read it, I said, "Stop, Canon Miller, for one moment, I wish to know what sort of food you give your lambs." (Laughter and cheers.) Before I pronounce in your favour I must have that question answered. I have no wish to be the judge of the quality of the food—not the least. I am quite content that you, Canon Miller, should be the judge of the food which Canon Gregory gives his lambs, and that Canon Gregory should be the judge of the food you give to them. Pronounce your verdict upon one another. From your pulpit, Canon Miller, you denounce Canon Gregory's doctrines as Romanist and everything that is bad. From your pulpit, Canon Gregory, you denounce Canon Miller's doctrines as equally bad in another direction; and yet you stand there and say to this nation of England that the Church of England has fed the lambs which Christ has given to her in charge, and can demand of the nation a verdict in your favour. I say, no; yourselves being judges. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Let Canon Miller taste the milk which Canon Gregory provides for the young ones of his flock; and you will see him shaking his head at once—(laughter)—showing signs of exceeding distaste and disfavour. No, it has a strong flavour of Rome. (Laughter.) Let Canon Gregory perform the same operation, and just taste the milk provided by his brother, Canon Miller, and the answer will be, "It is insipid; there is so much water in it." (Laughter.) I ask you as honest, thinking men, whether it is not trifling before God and man—(loud cheers)—trifling with a great and solemn question? I venture to say that the teaching given in board schools under the present arrangement is infinitely nearer to the teaching which Lord Shaftesbury has been in the habit of patronising in his ragged-schools than the teaching which is given in three-fourths of the schools of the Church of England.

The Hon. LYULPH STANLEY in an able speech showed that this battle was the old claim of ecclesiastical supremacy, and that they were contending against a clerical party who were trying to hood-wink the people for the furtherance of their own ends.

The Rev. Dr. RALEIGH said that they had been recently debating the education problem, ready to give and take, and trying at least to find some practical agreement in action, when "a loud ecclesiastical war-whoop" was raised, and the truce was broken. He could not understand the education question as raised on the other side, and when Lord Shaftesbury attempted to explain it in a storm of thunder and lightning, it got clearly into the category of things which "no fellow can understand." (Much laughter.) What is the distinctive religious teaching which is clamoured for?

Here is a body of men, under the auspices of the Bishop of London, which deliberately and loudly claims the privilege and power—what to do? To contradict each other in the schools of the nation. The Evangelical wishes distinctively to teach that the idea of sacramental grace in baptism or in the Eucharist is a delusion of the devil, and the Ritualist wishes most distinctively to teach that that idea, properly understood and explained, is the truth of God; and the Broad Churchman wishes to teach that it does not matter—that all will come right in the end. (Laughter.) And the Romanist wishes, if he may be allowed his distinctive teaching—and Lord Shaftesbury says he may—to teach that there is no religious truth in the world on which any man can absolutely depend except that which comes through the successor of St. Peter. No, it will not bear examination. We all want religious teaching, distinctive religious teaching. (Cheers.) The man is not an honest and religious man who would not teach what he assuredly believes, to all over whom he may have influence, or to whom he may legitimately find access; but we ought to do it at our own expense—(cheers)—and we ought not to seek, as they are now seeking, to obtain the national sanction; the nation meanwhile, by its Government, proclaiming as loudly as ever that they have nothing to do with the religious question at all; but those who act under their authority have to do with it, and what they do, and what they wish to enact, will be exactly the same in the result as if the Government did it by its highest officers. I think in this particular contest the appearance of so many clergymen is an ominous circumstance. Why should a Nonconformist minister as such, think that simply by virtue of his profession he has a right to go forth, without any special qualifications, to the direction of the education of the people? I aver that we want the best men that can be found, the best men in the country, as far as they can be induced to give their services, the best men in the city to direct the national education; men of high culture, with educational experience and zeal; men with tolerant bearing—not the Canon Gregory sort of men at all—(applause)—men of gentlemanly charity, who will appease passions and adopt methods of conciliation in matters of inevitable difference. I hope we shall get such men. I do not know whether we are going to be defeated in this particular contest—it may be so—by the diligent use of that Bible cry, that is the most shocking thing to me of anything they do. They paraded the Bible at Birmingham, they put it on a cushion, and sent it through the town on a procession. They called themselves the "Bible eight," and now they have turned out to be the "Prayer-book six." (Laughter.) The men of Birmingham did not believe them. (Applause.) There can be no defeat in the end. The justice of the case, and, in the main, the modern legislation of this country, is with us, and the drift of thought and sentiment among the most intelligent Englishmen is with us; the times are with us, and we believe, although of course we allow the same liberty to our opponents—we believe that the great Book is with us. At any rate, I believe the men who are gathered here, and many more are as resolved;

and all more resolved, now that this opposition has so suddenly and unnecessarily arisen, we are resolved never to stay in our endeavours until as members of the great Liberal party in this country, whose motto is "Civil and Religious Liberty all the world over"—(loud cheers)—until we see inaugurated in the cities and villages, yes, and I will add, over the wide-spread parishes of England, a truly national system of education. (Loud applause.)

Mr. THOMAS MOTTERSHEAD moved, and the Rev. Dr. EDMOND seconded, the next resolution:—

That this meeting calls upon the electors in their respective divisions to record their votes in favour of those candidates who will refuse to bow to the dictation of the clergy, and will support the establishment of a truly national system of education.

The resolution was supported by Mr. CHATFIELD CLARKE, and carried unanimously.

The Rev. T. W. HANDFORD moved, and the Rev. J. SHAW seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, which having been briefly acknowledged, the meeting separated at a late hour.

[We have referred to some of the features of the contests for the London School Board in a separate article.]

PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

LIVERPOOL.

The result of the polling for the new school board was declared on Friday. The following is a list of the successful candidates and their votes:—

ROMAN CATHOLICS.

Edward Browne . . . 29,392	James Fairhurst . . . 27,550
John Yates . . . 27,780	Joseph Walton . . . 26,338
James Whitty . . . 27,703	

ULTRA-PROTESTANTS.

Rev. H. Carpenter . . . 23,177	James Hakes . . . 16,729
William Cross . . . 17,138	T. H. Satchell . . . 14,965
Rev. R. Hughes . . . 16,900	

METHODISTS.

William Oulton . . . 20,133	J. B. Burrows . . . 10,384
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LIBERAL PROTESTANTS.

S. G. Rathbone . . . 12,328	Samuel Booth . . . 9,825
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EVANGELICAL.

Rev. Abraham Hume	9,740
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The *Liverpool Mercury* thus classifies the new members of the board:—"Five Roman Catholic candidates, advocates of concurrent endowment; five ultra-Protestants, in favour of the Bible being read in board schools, but opposed to concurrent endowment; two Liberal Protestants, in favour of the separation of secular from religious instruction, and opposed to concurrent endowment; two Wesleyan Methodists, who are opposed to concurrent endowment; and a Church of England clergyman, in favour of concurrent endowment. The Roman Catholic candidates, in consequence of superior organisation and the great activity of the priests, polled by far the largest number of votes."

MIDDLESBOROUGH.

The result of the voting for nine members to form the Middlesborough School Board was made known at noon on Saturday. In this contest the denominational question has not been the bone of contention, all the candidates standing upon their own account, and, with the exception of the Rev. Adam Clarke Smith, the burgesses were solicited to give all nine votes to one individual. An analysis of the result shows that seven Liberals, two Independents, and one Conservative have been returned, and according to the views enunciated in the published addresses of the successful members of the board there are five undenominationalists, two whose views are not definitely pronounced, and two who will support the payment of school fees to denominational schools.

SHEFFIELD.

A special meeting of the Sheffield School Board was held on Saturday, at which a letter from the Education Department was read, stating that there had been no election under the order of the department. The members of the old board had the choice of serving again if they thought proper. This alternative was accordingly offered to each member and accepted by all, thus bringing the difficulty to a definite settlement, and obviating the necessity for an election.

BRADFORD.

This election took place on Saturday. The result was declared on Monday. There were twenty-one candidates nominated, and of the fifteen elected eight are Liberals or Nonconformists, five are Churchmen, and two are Roman Catholics. The Liberal party returned the whole of their candidates; the Churchmen five out of their six nominated; and the Roman Catholic the two nominated by them. The candidates who have failed are three Wesleyans, and two who were nominated on independent grounds. The number of burgesses who voted was 18,528, out of a constituency of 29,452. Out of 721 doubtful ballot papers, the Mayor rejected 609. The following are the fifteen returned, in the order placed: Mr. H. Ripley, Churchman; Bishop Ryan, ditto; Messrs. Pollard, Liberal; Holl ditto; Hanson, ditto; Glyde, ditto; Goddard, ditto; Motter, Roman Catholic; Rev. C. Edwards, Churchman; Mr. T. Firth, Liberal; Mr. Duggan, Roman Catholic; Mr. Law, Liberal; Mr. Geach, Churchman; Mr. Taylor, Churchman; and Mr. C. Turner, Liberal. Mr. Ripley, who was at the head of the poll, had 23,681 votes, and Bishop Ryan, who was next, 17,230. The lowest but one of the unsuccessful candidates was the Rev. Dr. Campbell, who preferred to act independently of the Liberal party. There were 609 votes declared to be bad. Shortly after the declaration of the poll on Monday evening a large crowd assembled in front of the

Central Liberal Club, New Market-street. When Sir Titus Salt, Bart., the veteran chairman of the Liberal Committee, appeared at an open window, he was greeted with loud cheers. In a few brief but earnest words he congratulated the assemblage on the success of the Liberal eight, and then called upon Mr. T. F. Myers, who read the return of the voting. Mr. Joshua Pollard, who had polled the largest number of the Liberals, was next called upon, and addressed the crowd in congratulatory terms. He was succeeded by Mr. R. Holt, Mr. Jas. Law, and Mr. C. Turner, who each spoke in laudatory language of the great success of the Liberal party. There was next a gathering of the large dining-room of the club, when speeches were delivered by Sir Titus Salt, Bart., Mr. R. Kell, Mr. Holden, and others, and great enthusiasm was manifested. The explanation why Mr. Ripley polled so many votes was that the Tories sent out circulars to the Church party, stating that Mr. Ripley was in danger, and asking the voters to plump for Mr. Ripley.

The *Bradford Observer* says:—"When we come to analyse the votes given on Saturday we find that there were nearly 18,000 persons who recorded their votes, out of a constituency of rather over 29,000. This is not such a large number as have polled at Parliamentary elections, but is a higher proportion than the numbers who voted during the late school board elections in Birmingham and other large towns. Of those who actually polled about 7,900 voted for the Liberal candidates, 6,250 for the Churchmen, 1,900 for the Roman Catholics, 1,613 for the Wesleyans, and only 178 for those candidates who were independent of party; thus proving that the fight was one of principles and not men. It will be seen from a very careful and impartial calculation, which will be found in another column, that the result is a very satisfactory one; that even giving two-thirds of the Catholic, Wesleyan, and independent votes to the Conservative party, and adding one-third only to their own majority, the Liberals have still a majority of 500—a hopeful fact in the presence of the approaching conflict for the Parliamentary representation of the borough."

LEEDS.

This election also occurred on Saturday, and the result of the ballot was declared at a late hour on Monday evening. The candidates in the field were—six Church candidates, one Independent Church candidate (the Rev. Mr. Flood), three Wesleyans, two Roman Catholics, two representatives of the United Congregationalists, Baptists and Friends, one Primitive Methodist, one belonging to the Methodist New Connection, one United Methodist Free Church, two Liberals (Mrs. Catherine Mary Buckton and Mr. William Henry Conyers), and five independent candidates who had been nominated by particular friends but who had no particular formula of educational or religious faith. The result of the election was thus declared: Mr. J. M. Fawcett (nominee of the Methodist New Connection), 27,008 votes; Mrs. Catherine Buckton (Liberal nominee), 26,123; Jos. Harrison (Methodist Free Church), 22,478; Rev. Edward Jackson, (Church of England), 27,568; Rev. J. H. F. Kendal (Church of England), 20,157; Sir Andrew Fairbairn (Church nominee), 19,208; Mr. W. H. Conyers, (Liberal nominee), 18,251; Dr. Kelly (Catholic), 18,115; Mr. Gardiner (Primitive Methodist), 16,656; Mr. John Jowitt (Congregationalist), 16,490; Mr. William Long (Catholic), 16,347; Rev. Samuel Flood (Independent Church candidate), 15,978; Mr. William Rothery (Churchman), 14,850; Mr. Thomas Harvey (Quaker), 13,760; and Mr. Henry B. Legg (Wesleyan), 12,789 votes. The decrease in the interest in this election as contrasted with that of 1870 was considerable. In 1870, with a burgess list numbering 45,000, upwards of 30,000 electors recorded their franchises, while at the present election, with an enlarged constituency of 53,000, only 22,600 ballot papers were deposited in the box. The net result is that eight Liberal candidates, two Roman Catholics, and five Churchmen have been elected. As compared with the constitution of the old board this shows a gain of two votes for the advocates of unsectarian education, securing to them a majority.

NOTTINGHAM.

The casting up of the votes was concluded on Monday evening. The result showed that the Liberals had secured seven seats out of the thirteen. The following are the names of the successful candidates in the order in which they stand on the poll sheet:—Bentley, Mellers (Churchmen), Bayley, Hemm, Ward (Liberals), Baines, Thurlow (Churchmen), Gilpin, Goldschmidt, Gripper, Lewis (Liberals), Dwyer (Roman Catholic), Littlewood (Churchman). Mr. Bayley was the nominee of the Good Templars.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

The school board contest at Wolverhampton has resulted in a great surprise. Mr. Henry Fowler, the chairman of the last board, who was believed to be the strongest candidate, has been rejected. His fellow-Wesleyans brought him out and promised to return him without any effort on his part. They afterwards, it is said, joined the advanced Liberal platform. Five Churchmen, three Dissenters, one Wesleyan, one Liberal Churchman, and one Roman Catholic are returned.

GATESHEAD.

The poll for this school district was also declared on Monday. There were sixteen candidates, but two retired before the day of election. Of the

eleven elected, five were Dissenters, four were Churchmen, and two were Catholics. The Catholic priest was at the head of the poll. Two Churchmen and an Unsectarian were rejected. One Churchman and the Unsectarian came out on independent grounds, but polled the fewest votes.

MR. DISRAELI AT GLASGOW.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Disraeli was installed as Lord Rector of Glasgow University. The right hon. gentleman, who was introduced by Principal Caird, began by thanking the students of the university for the high honour conferred upon him two years ago and the sympathy accorded to him since. He went on to speak directly to the students of the conditions of success in life. Self-knowledge was the first condition. Bitter disappointment and perhaps failure followed the revelation of the harsh reality which belied the golden promise of youth as to our own powers. Acquaintance with the spirit of the age was the second condition of success—not obedience to it, for it might be an evil spirit, but acquaintance with it—an acquaintance necessary to all. What was the spirit of the age? The spirit of equality. He believed in political equality. He held that equality before the law was the only true foundation of a commonwealth. It had long prevailed in Britain, and to it more than to geographical distinctions, of which we have heard so much lately, the patriotism of the people was due. He did not believe in social equality. France had tried social equality for eighty years, but with what result they knew. The experiment made there showed that social equality was not a safe principle upon which to rely in the hour of trial or of danger. But social equality did not satisfy the latest philosophers. The wanted material equality. They believed only in material happiness; they would destroy private property, and acknowledge only the rights of labour. The right hon. gentleman thus concluded:—

It is not true that the only real happiness is physical happiness; it is not true that physical happiness is the highest happiness; it is not true that physical happiness is a principle on which you can build up a flourishing and enduring commonwealth. A civilised community must rest on a large realised capital of thought and sentiment, there must be a reserved fund of public morality to draw upon in the exigencies of national life. Society has a soul as well as a body, the traditions of a nation are part of its existence. Its valour and its discipline, its religious faith, its venerable laws, its science and erudition, its poetry, its art, its eloquence, and its scholarship, are as much portions of its existence as its agriculture, its commerce, and its engineering skill. Nay, I would go further, I would say that without these qualities material excellence cannot be attained. But, gentlemen, the new philosophy strikes further than at the existence of patriotism. It strikes at the home; it strikes at the individuality of man. It would reduce civilised society to human flocks and herds. That it may produce in your time much disturbance, possibly much destruction, I pretend not to deny; but I must express my conviction that it will not ultimately triumph. I hold that the main obstacles to its establishment are to be found in human nature itself. They are both physical and moral. If it be true, as I believe, that an aristocracy distinguished merely by wealth must perish from satiety, so I hold it is equally true that a people who recognise no higher aim than physical enjoyments must become selfish and enervated. Under such circumstances the supremacy of race, which is the key of history, will assert itself. Some human progeny, distinguished by their bodily vigour or their masculine intelligence, or by both qualities, will assert their superiority and conquer a world which deserves to be enslaved. It will then be found that our boasted progress has only been an advancement in a circle, and that our new philosophy has brought us back to that old serfdom which it has taken ages to extirpate. But the still more powerful—indeed, the insurmountable—obstacle to the establishment of the new opinions will be furnished by the essential elements of the human mind. Our idiosyncrasy is not bounded by the planet which we inhabit. We can investigate space, and we can comprehend eternity. No considerations limited to this sphere have hitherto furnished the incentive which man requires or the sanctions for his conduct which his nature imperatively demands. The spiritual nature of man is stronger than codes or constitutions. No Government can endure which does not recognise that for its foundation, and no legislation last which does not flow from this fountain. The principle may develop itself in manifold forms—shape of many creeds and many churches; but the principle is Divine. As time is divided into day and night, so religion rests upon the providence of God and the responsibility of man. One is manifest, the other mysterious; but both are facts. Nor is there, as some would teach you, anything in these convictions which tends to contract our intelligence or our sympathies. On the contrary, religion invigorates the intellect and expands the heart. He who has a due sense of his relations to God is the best qualified to fulfil his duties to man.

Nearly 500 persons were present at the banquet given to Mr. Disraeli in the City Hall the same evening. In responding to the toast of his health, which was enthusiastically drunk, the right hon. gentleman spoke at some length. He began with the remark that he had always thought it to be one of the best characteristics of public life in England that we have never permitted our opinions to interfere with our social enjoyment:—

I believe it is characteristic of this country at large. I am not aware that it is shared by any other. For instance, if you were on the Continent and wished to pay your respects to a Minister and go to his reception you are invited by the Minister, and the consequence is that you will find nobody there except those who follow him. Now, it is not so in England. I remember some years ago meeting under the charming roof of one of

the most accomplished women of the time the most celebrated diplomatist of certainly our half-century, and he said to me, "What a wonderful system of society you have in England! Now, I have not been on speaking terms with Lord Palmerston for three weeks, and here I am; but then you know I pay the visit to Lady Palmerston."

Speaking of his political career, Mr. Disraeli said:—

It has been my fortune to be the leader in the House of Commons of one of the great political parties in the State for five-and-twenty years, and there is no record, I believe, in the Parliamentary history of this country of a duration of a leadership equal to it. There have been in my time two illustrious instances of the great parties being led by most eminent men. One was the instance of Sir Robert Peel, who led the Tory party for eighteen years, though unfortunately it twice broke asunder. There was also the instance of one who is still spared to us, and who, I hope, may be long spared to us, for he is the pride of this country, as he was the honour of the House of Commons, Lord John Russell. He led one of the great parties of the State in the House of Commons for seventeen years, though at last it slipped out of his hands. Do not suppose for a moment that I am making these observations as any boast. The reason that I have been able to lead a party for so long a period, and under circumstances some of difficulty and discouragement, is that the party that I lead is really the most generous and indulgent party that ever existed. I cannot help smiling sometimes when I hear the constant intimations that are given by those who are in the secrets of the political world of the extreme anxiety of the Conservative party to get rid of my services. The fact is, the Conservative party can get rid of my services whenever they give me the intimation that they wish it. Whenever I have desired to leave the leadership of the party they have too kindly requested me to remain where I was, and if I make a mistake, the only difference in their conduct to me is that they are more indulgent and more kind.

Mr. Disraeli declined to follow the Lord Provost in some remarks about his (the right hon. gentleman's) books, as he had always thought that a literary man who dilates upon his own writings might be put in the same category of intense boredom as a mother who dilates on the qualities of her darlings.

Therefore (he continued) you will allow me only to express on that head my surprised delight that the rhapsody of "Vivian Grey," written nearly fifty years ago, has received the high honour in one of the greatest cities of the kingdom of being introduced again to your indulgence. I will merely say that, whatever may be the merits or demerits of my works, all I can say of them is that they have, at least, been the result of my own feeling and my own observation.

Mr. Disraeli went on to speak at length on the subject of the present commercial perturbation and the high value of money, which he attributed almost wholly to the great changes which various countries in Europe and various Governments in Europe are making with reference to their standard of value. Having enlarged upon this topic, and justified its introduction as a *pièce de résistance*, because though it is very proper to take a glass of liqueur after dinner, nobody would care to dine off a bottle of Maraschino, Mr. Disraeli said:—

A very sagacious monarch—King Louis Philippe—once said to me that he attributed the great success of the British nation in political life to their talking politics after dinner. Now, unfortunately to-night that is the only subject of which we must not treat—and therefore I hope that may be some excuse if I have touched upon a subject which is not a party question, for it is not a party question. The moment a monetary question arises, all parties are equally interested; and therefore I have adverted to it with the conviction that you would pardon the introduction. Let me, however, before I sit down, thank you from my inmost heart for the most cordial manner in which you have received me in this great city. I assure you the events of this day, both in the morning and in the evening, will not be easily erased from my memory. It is my first visit to your city. I think it is nearly half a century since I first visited Scotland. I remember it well, not only because I saw for the first time this memorable country, but because I made the personal acquaintance and became the guest of one of the best and greatest of men, the Lord of Abbotsford. He was a friend of my father's, and he received me with that kindness which the illustrious do not unfortunately always bestow upon the young, and I remember when walking with him in those plantations of which he was so proud, by the banks of the river Tweed, which he loved so well, he poured out of the treasure of his fancy and of his memory all the fire and music of his mind. He took as much pains to interest and entertain me as if, instead of being an unknown youth, I had been the lord rector of a famous university. That was the good nature of the man, which was as great as his genius.

Mr. Disraeli concluded by wishing long-continued prosperity to the city of Glasgow.

Mr. Disraeli was presented on Thursday with the freedom of the city of Glasgow. He acknowledged the compliment in a short speech. After glancing at the connection of the city with the University, the right hon. gentleman spoke of the commercial and literary associations surrounding the history of the city of Glasgow, the material prosperity of which had been influenced by the labours of such philosophers as Adam Smith, Black, Hutchinson, Reid, and James Watt. It was in cities those inventions had been discovered, which had given the first impetus to the education of the human mind. Priests and princes invented hieroglyphics, but no one would deny that merchants and manufacturers invented the alphabet. Later in the day Mr. Disraeli received a representative deputation of factory workers, to whom he said that his support of the Factory Bill was one of the most satisfactory incidents of his life.

Mr. Disraeli's concluding address at Glasgow, on Saturday afternoon, to "Conservative working men," bore the character of a political manifesto. He defended his recent Bath letter with consider-

able animation, and attacked the Government with much vehemence. He disclaimed ever making use of "violent" language, though he confessed to occasionally employing "strong" language, and he led his audience to suppose that his most controverted utterances are always distinguished by severe accuracy. Referring to the approaching session of Parliament, he said that one of the first subjects to be dealt with would be the Ashantee war; and, while he declared that he would now keep his mouth closed upon it, he managed to condemn it as a "mysterious mess." Parliamentary reform was the next topic touched upon, and the remarks on this head will be read with general interest. Mr. Disraeli deprecates the proposed assimilation of the borough and county franchise, and he looks askance at a wide redistribution of seats. He regards it as dangerous to be perpetually dwelling upon organic changes; and he thinks it "perfectly disgusting" for private members of the House of Commons to jump up and make propositions which demand "the gravest consideration of prolonged and protracted Cabinets, and all the responsibility that comes from experienced statesmen." But while he will not vote for any measure having such a parentage, he will give to any proposal of Her Majesty's Government "respectful and candid consideration." Having dwelt upon the perplexing relations between employers and employed, Mr. Disraeli, in conclusion, enlarged upon the contest "that is commencing in Europe between the spiritual and temporal powers." He should look upon it as the greatest danger to civilisation if, in the struggle between faith and free thought, the respective sides should only be represented by the Papacy and the Red Republic. Under certain circumstances it may be open to England again to take a stand upon the Reformation, which 300 years ago was the source of her greatness and her glory, and it may be her proud destiny to guard civilisation alike from the "withering blast of atheism and from the simoom of sacerdotal usurpation."

On Sunday afternoon, Mr. Disraeli, wearing his Rectorial robes, attended Divine service at Glasgow University Chapel, which was crowded. The Rev. Principal Caird preached from John xiv. 8, 9. While he was delivering one of his finest passages, an amusing incident occurred. The weather was very dull, and about half-past three o'clock the light in the chapel was very bad. The principal at this time came to a sentence in his sermon in which occurred the words, "O for light, more light," when the candle turned on the gas, and the building was in an instant brilliantly illuminated. Mr. Disraeli left Glasgow on Monday.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

HAVERFORDWEST.—The contest here was between Lord Kensington, who sought re-election on being appointed a member of Her Majesty's household, and Colonel Peel. The result of the ballot on Monday was as follows:—

Lord Kensington (L.)	640
Colonel Peel (C.)	558

Majority for the Liberal candidate 52
There were about 800 available votes, and no less than 780 actually polled.

EXETER.—The prospects of a Liberal victory grow better as the canvassing approaches completion. The mass of working men are with Sir Edward Watkin. The railway employes have pronounced in his favour, and the section of the temperance party which hitherto held aloof, acting under advice have resolved to support the Liberal candidate. The precise date for the election is not yet fixed, as the writs have not been received, but it is generally believed that it will take place about December 11.

HUNTINGDON.—The death of Mr. Thomas Baring creates a vacancy for this borough. Mr. Charles Veasey, merchant, Huntingdon, has been invited to come forward in the Liberal interest for that place, and a meeting of his supporters has been held. The name of Mr. Neville Goodman has also been mentioned.

NOTTINGHAM.—It is stated that the Hon. A. Herbert, junior member for the borough, who had announced his intention of not seeking re-election, has been induced to reconsider his determination. There is a strong desire amongst the Liberals that he should be returned free of cost and with as little trouble as possible to himself.

FROME.—It is stated that the Liberals of Frome have decided to invite Mr. Milner Gibson to contest the borough of Frome against Mr. Lopes, the Conservative candidate.

NORWICH.—Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., will contest this city in the Conservative interest, in conjunction with Sir H. Stracey.

PRESTON.—Mr. Mottershead, late Secretary of the Labour Representation League, and Mr. Allen, Secretary of the Amalgamated Engineers' Society, have been selected to contest Preston as working-men candidates.

MIDDLESEX.—In reply to a request from Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., and Mr. Morley, M.P., joint chairmen of his committee, Mr. Henry Labouchere says that he did not intend to stand for Middlesex at the general election. He writes:—"There is little doubt that the Liberal party in Middlesex, provided it acts unitedly, would be able to return two members to Parliament. I am myself an advanced Liberal. I am in favour of the disestablishment of the Church of England; of free

secular and compulsory education; of the mobilisation of land; of the administration of counties being carried on by the representatives of the ratepayers; of political power being more fairly apportioned between classes; and of many other measures of a similar character. These views would not command the united support of all the Liberals of Middlesex. Highly as I esteem the honour of representing so important a constituency, I should not be justified in shirking the expression of my political opinions, in order to obtain this honour."

THE ASHANTEE WAR.

Later advices from the West Coast of Africa report another attack on the Ashantee position, the result being the destruction of one of the camps near Dunquah and the retreat of the enemy, said to be 40,000 strong, across the Prah. The attack was made by Colonel Festing, on October 27, the day on which the previous despatches left Cape Coast Castle. After a few miles' march he "surprised the enemy at breakfast." Colonel Festing's force was composed of 100 West Indians and regulars, and between two or three hundred Fantees and Houssas; and he had with him nine English officers. The attack was promptly made, and was much assisted by rockets and a 7-pounder. The startled Ashantees fled in every direction, disappearing in the bush. Here, however, they re-collected their forces, and, with drums beating, swarmed back to attack "in front and by a well-planned flank movement." The engagement lasted for two or three hours; but such good play was made with the rockets and the 7-pounder, that in the end the Ashantees were thoroughly beaten off at all points. Of the two or three hundred men of all arms and colours, who, according to this account, were engaged, forty-two were wounded or killed—for the most part merely wounded. But of the nine officers who accompanied Colonel Festing five were wounded: one, it is thought, rather seriously. There is not much difficulty in accounting for this uncomfortable fact. The correspondence of the *Daily News* assures us that little or no dependence can be placed on the natives. "Nothing will prevent the brunt of the whole business from falling on the European officers. No native kings will move without their help; no tribe will fight unless one at least is present; no skirmish is successful unless they lead it." It is stated that Sir Garnet Wolseley had sent for a reinforcement of white troops for the purpose of marching on Coomassie at the earliest possible moment, and, meanwhile he has issued a proclamation to all kings, chiefs, and tribes on the Gold Coast, urging them to pursue the Ashantees.

A correspondent, writing from Cape Coast Castle on the 20th ult., says:—"Sir Garnet Wolseley shows his energy in every direction. The whole place is quite lively, for he has turned out every single Fantee, and set them to work at roadmaking. You would hardly know the people; already, under his influence, they seem quite quick and lively."

The Himalaya and Tamar have sailed from Plymouth and Queenstown with reinforcements for the Cape Coast Castle. The only other troops ordered there are the 42nd Highlanders, who will leave Portsmouth as soon as a ship is ready for the service. Sir Archibald Alison has been appointed to take command of the brigade.

The Wesleyans are arranging to send, at once, one of their ministers, now stationed at the camp at Aldershot, to Cape Coast, to minister to Wesleyans in the corps included in the Ashantee expedition; and, at the request of the Government, they have placed at the service of Sir Garnet Wolseley one of their most experienced agents on the coast, who has resided at Coomassie, and whose knowledge of the dialects spoken, of the habits of the people, and of the topography of the country, will be most valuable.

The *Daily Telegraph* has a letter dated Cape Coast Castle, Oct. 31, which says:—"Our wounded are doing well. Colonel McNeill leaves to-day for Madeira. Colonel Festing, Captains Forbes and Haynes, and Lieuts. Godwin and Filliter are all progressing favourably. To this news I can add the testimony of officers who have been into the bush that further inland the climate is delightful, day and night, no mosquitoes, plenty to eat, and good water to drink. Some who started from here looking like ghosts have come back strong healthy men. Ashantee prisoners are coming in daily, haggard wretches, who devour ravenously the food offered to them. The reports they bring with regard to their own affairs are very conflicting. Some state that King Coffee Calcalli is dead, others that Adjiepan is deceased, several that they have no lead or powder left, and that they are subsisting on dry cassada brought from Coomassie, and finally, that they are trying to get back to Ashantee Land through Wassaw, Commendee, and Assin. The Mampon army contains the flower of King Coffee's troops."

A new volume of sermons by the Archbishop of Westminster, entitled "Sin and its Consequences," is in the press, and will be ready very shortly.

The execution of the statue of Mr. Mill has been entrusted to Mr. J. H. Foley, R.A. Mr. John Mill's three posthumous essays on religious subjects, "The Utilitarianism of Religion," "Nature," and "Therson," will be published in one volume. The first impression of Mr. Mill's autobiography, consisting of 3,000 copies, was all sold within six days of publication, and a second impression of the same number is already exhausted.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

MARSHAL MACMAHON DICTATOR.

At the night sitting of the French Assembly on Wednesday the proceedings did not terminate until two o'clock on Thursday morning. The Duc de Broglie, who opened the debate, maintained that the Assembly would perform a great act of confidence by prolonging the powers of the President, whose loyalty and impartiality were acknowledged. The marshal would remain under the authority of the House, and without any idea of assuming a dictatorship. M. Grévy replied in a long speech to the duke, and argued that the Assembly would exceed its powers by conferring a seven years' term of power upon Marshal MacMahon. Such a measure would be an act of usurpation full of danger and calamity. M. Buffet then put the proposal to the vote, that the executive power should be conferred upon Marshal MacMahon for seven years, and should continue to be exercised under the present conditions until modified by the Constitutional Laws which might afterwards be introduced. This was carried by 383 to 317 votes, being a majority of 66 for the Government. So large a majority was unexpected, and surprised everyone. It was secured by thirty-five deserters from the Left Centre, who belonged to M. Casimir-Périer's club, and by the abstention of several Legitimists and Bonapartists. When elected President on May 24 the marshal obtained 390 votes. On Thursday he obtained only 378. There was no substantial difference between the Government bill which has been voted and the proposal which was brought forward by M. Laboulaye on behalf of the committee. M. Laboulaye required that the prolongation of powers should not have constitutional effect until the constitutional laws were voted. The Government bill enacts that Marshal MacMahon shall exercise the powers of President of the Republic under the existing conditions until the constitutional laws are voted.

The Comte de Chambord was last week in France, and a number of his friends. In the recent crisis he left his partisans free to vote as they thought fit. The Comte has left France, and is said to entertain thoughts of abdication.

By a decree of the French Government, elections are to take place in the departments of the Aude, Finisterre, and Seine-et-Oise on December 7.

The National Assembly has decided that the preparation of the Constitutional Law shall be entrusted to a committee of thirty, chosen by the Assembly itself, and not by the bureaux. This will ensure a majority of the committee for the Conservative party.

Marshal MacMahon sent a Message to the French Assembly on Monday, thanking the members for the distinction they had conferred on him by prolonging his powers, and declaring that they would always find him a firm supporter of order, and that he would faithfully carry out their wishes. M. Léon Say then brought forward his question, asking the Government why it had not filled up the vacant seats in the Assembly. M. Boulé, the Minister of the Interior, replied for the Ministers. He took upon himself the responsibility of the course that had been followed, which he maintained was the best, as being calculated to cause the least agitation in the country. In the course of the discussion M. Bethmont complained of the support given to Monarchical schemes during the recess by the Duc de Broglie. The Duke in his turn complained of the course adopted by the Radicals, who attempted to arouse social hatred by leading the people to fear a return to the abuses of the old régime. Ultimately an order of the day, proposed by a member of the Right, was adopted by 364 to 314 votes, being a majority of 50 for the Government.

M. Louis Blanc has written a letter explaining why the Republican Left took no part in the recent debate on the prolongation of Marshal MacMahon's powers. M. Louis Blanc also says that the party have come to the conclusion that an appeal to the country by a general election is the only means of extricating France from her present position.

In about a month the Government will present the political laws which it thinks it its duty to bring forward, and it is not till afterwards that the constitutional laws will be discussed. Before that time it is probable that the budget will be dealt with, the discussion of which is now urgent.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The town council of Munich has presented a congratulatory address to Dr. Döllinger on the occasion of the fifty years' jubilee of his professorship.

From New York we have intelligence of the wreck of the cable steamer Robert Lowe, with the loss of eighteen lives.

A cable telegram states that W. M. Tweed has been sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment and 12,750 dols. fine. Unsuccessful efforts were made to arrest judgment. Tweed was taken to the Tombs prison.

THE NEXT POPE.—The *Hour* learns that the cardinals, by a considerable majority, have fixed upon Cardinal Pecci, Archbishop of Perugia, as the next Pope. He is an Ultramontane, but is of a very conciliatory spirit, and would no doubt live on terms of amity with the Italian Government.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.—Intelligence has been received in Liverpool of the death of Mr. Charles Livingstone, from fever, on board the steamship Ethiopia. Mr. Livingstone was a

brother of Dr. Livingstone, and was on his passage from Fernando Po, where he had for some years been acting as British Consul.

RUSSIA AND KHIVA.—The *Times* publishes the text of a treaty between Russia and Khiva, dated August 25. By the first article the Khan professes himself the obedient servant of Russia; and by clause three, all territory on the right bank of the Amu is ceded to Russia, and the right of navigation to Russian vessels. Russia may also erect fortresses and factories on the left bank. The Khan further undertakes to pay a fine of 2,200,000 roubles.

THE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION QUESTION IN ITALY.—In Monday's sitting of the Italian Chamber of Deputies at Rome, Signor Mancini, in proposing that the House should proceed to the order of the day, made an eloquent speech, in which he said that he was favourable to the principle of international arbitration, and demonstrated the great patriotism evinced by England and America in inaugurating an era of peaceful solutions of national differences. He urged the Italian Government, when occasion might arise, to propose arbitration, and introduce in the stipulations of its treaties a clause referring to arbitrators any question which might occur in the interpretation or execution of the treaty. Signor Boselli, the reporter of the committee, warmly supported the motion, which was also accepted by Signor Visconti Venosta. The latter declared that Italy had always been ardently in favour of a peace policy. Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., and Mr. Dudley Field were present during the discussion.

THE FISK UNIVERSITY FOR THE COLOURED PEOPLE.—The *Republican Banner* (Nashville) of October 22 gives full details of the laying of the corner-stone of the new University building, which will be known to our readers as the building intended for the higher education of the coloured people of the Southern States, and for which the band of "Jubilee Singers" have come to this country. After the address of the Rev. Mr. Cravath, Capt. T. C. Steward read the list of articles to be deposited in the corner-stone. Mr. Cravath having laid the stone, Prof. Chase led in an earnest prayer, invoking the blessing of God upon the enterprise, and upon the people for whom it is intended. The pupils of the University then united in singing jubilee songs, "I ain't got long to stay here," and "Coming for to carry me home," &c. Among the speakers who afterwards addressed the assembly were Professor Caldwell, Professor J. B. Lindsey, the Rev. Mr. Thomson, Dr. Aitchison, the Hon. W. F. Prosser, and the Rev. H. S. Bennett.

FRUSTRATION OF A PLOT AT CARTAGENA.—From La Palma it is stated a plot of a determined character has been discovered in Cartagena. All the military leaders, with the exception of Contreras, have been arrested, and Contreras and Galvez are now the sole rulers in Cartagena. On Friday night a terrible cannonade and fusillade were heard inside the town, and it is supposed that those who compose the military element endeavoured to liberate their commanders. The fortresses were shelled, but the military had been withdrawn, and they are now manned by convicts. On Saturday the insurgents made a sortie on the besiegers' right and left wings. Skirmishing continued for some time, the insurgents at last retreating in good order, under cover of their fortresses. Carlist advices from Valencia state that the town of Morella has revolted against the Republican Government, and opened the gates to Carlist partisans. The Republican garrison had been driven to take refuge in the citadel.

AMERICAN NOTES.—"A Cosmopolitan" writes us a letter dealing with some questions of lapsed interest. But we make the following extracts:—"Mr. Wilkie Collins is giving public readings, and has created a very favourable impression by the modesty of his bearing. On a recent occasion he positively declined to read unless the chairman promised not to introduce him as 'the greatest living novelist.' He had had enough of that sort of thing. Mr. Collins is inferior to Dickens as a reader, but he thoroughly interests his audience. Casual visitors to the United States are apt to be greatly impressed with the hospitality they receive. The Americans, like the English, never fail to welcome guests. The permanent resident has, however, the best means of gauging the real sentiments of the people. It affords me, therefore, great pleasure to say that since the satisfactory settlement of the Alabama dispute, the affection for England has rapidly strengthened in this country. The Fenian-Irish find their old game of dissension played out, and the tone of the press has become increasingly friendly to Great Britain. Some day there will be free trade between the two countries, and then the *entente cordiale* will be perfect."

THE THREATENED FAMINE IN BENGAL.—The Zemindars' Association report that they expect only 6-16ths of an average crop of rice for sixty millions of people, excluding Orissa. They urge an immediate prohibition of the export of grain, except from Burmah. Large imports have already been made, and the relief committees believe that native charity will be displayed by the distribution of rice, but not by large subscriptions of money. The association acknowledges the foresight and promptitude of the Government. A further telegram dated Calcutta, November 25th, says:—"The Viceroy, in answering an address from Agra on the condition of Bengal, said he had reason to believe that the Government would be able to meet the difficulties. The number of the population affected is about

24,000,000, but the previous harvest was a good one, and prices are lower than in 1865. Great gratification has been caused in India by the intimation of assistance from London. The time for administering relief is not yet come, but preparations are being made. Much grain has been purchased for distribution at the relief works. All practicable suggestions made by the Orissa Commission are being followed out. No difficulty is anticipated in meeting the deficiency from other provinces. From Roorkee, Gungee, and Orissa the accounts are good; from Madras, Bombay, and Hindostan, except Benares, excellent. Trade is active. The Government declines all interference with the exports, which have already largely diminished, but will supplement the action of commerce if it should become necessary. Officials are empowered to act on an emergency. The Viceroy intends visiting the relief works on his way to Calcutta."

Epitome of News.

On Thursday evening the Queen gave a dance to the servants in the servant's hall at Balmoral Castle, in honour of the birthday of Her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess of Germany, at which Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice were present for a part of the time, with the Ladies and Gentlemen-in-Waiting.

It is now hoped that Her Majesty will be able to leave Balmoral on Friday and arrive at Windsor Castle on Saturday, the health of Prince Leopold having, it is said, improved sufficiently for him to bear the journey. The London and North-Western Railway Company will provide a special carriage, which will be fitted in such a way as to promote the comfort of his royal highness. The Queen will, it is understood, go to Osborne to spend Christmas.

According to a telegram from Berlin, Queen Victoria is expected at St. Petersburg for the marriage of Prince Alfred on Jan. 7.

It is reported, though on no very reliable authority, that should health permit, Her Majesty will open Parliament in person.

Her Majesty has signified her intention of aiding, by a gift of 200*l.*, the Scottish Church Extension scheme in Aberdeen.

John Bull understands that marriages are arranged to take place between two of Lord Selborne's daughters and Lords Clinton and Waldegrave respectively.

Mr. Vernon Harcourt, Q.C. (the new Solicitor-General), was sworn in on Saturday last, before the Lord Chancellor, at Lincoln's-inn.

The Prince of Wales returned to Sandringham from London on Saturday night. He is entertaining many friends, including the Duke of Edinburgh.

Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P. for Huntingdon, died at Bournemouth, on Tuesday night, at the age of seventy-three.

At a council held by Her Majesty at Balmoral Castle on Thursday last it was ordered that Parliament be further prorogued to Thursday, the 5th of February next, then to meet for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs.

About three o'clock on Monday morning, the mail train from Birmingham to Leamington ran at full speed into the engine of a goods train whilst shunting at Adderley-park Station, about three miles from Birmingham. Fortunately there were no passengers in the mail, the guard and driver of which were, however, injured.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Friday, in the Tichborne case, Mr. M'Mahon moved, on behalf of the Claimant, for a rule to rescind an order of court for enlarging the time of this trial. His contention was the enlargement was contrary to law. The judges unanimously refused the rule. Mr. Whalley, M.P., announces that he has withdrawn from any further action in the Tichborne case, his reason being "the abrupt and premature closing of the evidence for the defence."

Speaking on Thursday night at the opening of the new building connected with the London School of Art, Mr. Goschen, M.P., expressed himself highly pleased at the rapid growth of art schools all over the country. Mr. Cole, C.B., addressed the meeting, and spoke in very strong language of condemnation of the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to hand over the South Kensington Museum to the British Museum authorities. Mr. Goschen warmly defended Mr. Lowe from this attack.

Dr. Brindley, well-known in connection with lectures and discussions on infidelity, died this month in New York, whither he had gone to deliver lectures in opposition to Mr. Bradlaugh.

Mr. Arch and Mr. Clayden have arrived at Leamington on their return from Canada. They fully believe in Canada as being a most eligible field for the emigration of agricultural labourers. Mr. Arch is going to try and send out ten thousand emigrants in the spring, when he will again visit Canada, and hopes to take out with him 500 families. Mr. Arch's impression is that both Canada and the United States afford ample scope for English agricultural labourers; but owing to the present stagnation of trade in America, he considers it would be injudicious for artisans to emigrate.

Lord Rendlesham appealed to the Court of Common Pleas, on Wednesday, against a decision of the revising barrister for East Suffolk, who struck his lordship's name off the register of electors on the ground of his being an Irish Peer. Lord Chief Justice Coleridge pronounced the judgment of

the court, sustaining the revising barrister's decision.

Mr. Brady, a distinguished Roman Catholic graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, has been appointed to the new Professorship of Classical Literature in the University. Mr. Brady is the first Roman Catholic Professor in Arts.

The marriage of Miss Gladstone, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone, with the Rev. Mr. Benson, head-master of Wellington College, is fixed for the 29th of the ensuing month.

The mail steamship *Ethiopia*, which arrived at Liverpool on Saturday, brings reports that a statement to the effect that Dr. Livingstone was at San Salvador had caused an expedition of the inhabitants to proceed inland for 300 miles in search of him, but no tidings could be ascertained.

Five persons were killed on Friday by an explosion of fire-damp in a colliery at Wigan.

There is a sad report from Wapping of the murder of a boy and girl by their father, who appears to have suffered in mind from the loss of his wife. Mr. Webb, a master baker at Portwood, a Southampton suburb, has been committed to gaol on a charge of manslaughter. The victim was his wife, an inveterate drunkard.

Sunday was the sixth anniversary of the execution at Manchester of the murderers of Sergeant Brett, and it was commemorated by an immense amnesty demonstration in Dublin. Amongst the speakers were Mr. Butt, M.P., Mr. Ronayne, M.P., and Mr. John Martin, M.P.

A collision between two goods trains took place on Saturday morning at Kirkcconnel Station on the Glasgow and South-Western Railway, which resulted in a great destruction of property. The driver of one of the trains is in custody, and has been lodged in Dumfries gaol; while the firemen was so severely scalded that he is not expected to recover.

On Thursday the Bank rate of discount was reduced from nine to eight per cent.

A death from "voluntary starvation" has occurred at Palgrave-place, Strand, near Temple-bar. The deceased was a Mr. J. C. Cooper, aged about forty. For some time past he has been living in great seclusion, on bread only, and the medical evidence at the inquest was to the effect that there was no sign of food in the stomach, and he had apparently been without proper food for months. The jury returned a verdict that death arose from consumption and starvation, but they added that the deceased did not go without food with the intention to shorten life. There was about 500*l.* in his possession, besides deposits in banks.

The heavy gale on Saturday and Sunday has been attended with disastrous results to shipping. At the mouth of the Mersey two vessels at least appear to have foundered with their crews. At Bray Head, on the coast of Ireland, a barque has been lost, and nine persons have perished. There have also been serious accidents on land arising out of the gale, and in a few instances lives have been lost.

The Taunton election petition will be tried before Mr. Justice Grove. No day is at present fixed for the hearing, but it is expected that it will not be tried till early in January.

The homeward-bound Atlantic steamers which arrive in Liverpool are bringing a great number of artisans from America, who are compelled to return home through want of work in the United States.

Messrs. Bagster announce the first volume of "Records of the Past," being English translations of the Assyrian and Egyptian monuments, edited by S. Birch, LL.D.

Christmas annuals are beginning to make their appearance. The Archbishop of Canterbury is to contribute a paper to *Winged Arrows*, the Quiver Christmas annual.

A new story from the pen of Sir Arthur Helps is in the press. It is concerned with Russian conspiracies, and gives an account of the economics of Siberia, to which his chief characters are transported.

Mr. Arthur J. Ashton, of Warrington, who has just won the first Balliol scholarship at Oxford, is the eldest son of the Rev. Dr. Halley's youngest daughter. In July last he won the Rickards scholarship and the Lawson Gold Medal, the highest honours of the Manchester Grammar School.

At the meeting of the Cambridge Philosophical Society on Monday, Mr. Sedley Taylor read a paper on "A suspected forgery in the Vatican manuscript of the trial of Galileo before the Inquisition." The result of the paper was to exonerate Galileo completely from the charge of contumacy which all his biographers have hitherto either advanced or tacitly admitted.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.—Third year Bursaries of 40*l.* a-year tenable for two years.—The following were the successful candidates at the bursary competition held in the University on Nov. 1:—Messrs. Alfred W. Mummery and James M. McIntyre.

ECONOMY IN COALS.—It is usual in many families to have a stock of coke as well as coal, and by having the coke broken up very small, a good fire will soon be produced. You may also effect a great saving in coal by having the ashes kept, mixing small coal or coal dust with them, and throwing a small quantity of water on this mixture. Take some of this compost and put it at the back of the grate, fill up the front with coal, and it will all burn together brightly and clean, and save a great deal of trouble in sifting the cinders.—*From Cassell's Household Guide for November.*

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.—CITY DIVISION. TO the ELECTORS of the CITY of LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,—
In soliciting the honour of re-election by you, as one of your representatives on the London School Board, to assist in completing the elementary school system which that Board have laboured to organise and bring into operation, I ask your suffrages—not only as I did on the last occasion, as one anxious to carry out the purposes of the Act, but as a tried member of your educational parliament.

Much has been done to lay the foundation of an efficient system. The number of children needing education has been carefully ascertained, and equal care has been exercised in determining where schools should be planted to supply deficiencies.

We have secured 99 school sites, which, when the schools are erected, will accommodate 86,870 children. By the time the election takes place, 31 new Board schools will be open, for 35,879 children. Twenty-eight more schools are in process of erection. Contracts have been, or are about being signed for 22 more. Thus 86 new permanent schools are secured, holding 79,825 children. In addition, we have hired, for present temporary use, 105 buildings, for 21,203 scholars, while 75 schools, with 21,828 children, have been transferred to the Board.

The low cost at which the permanent school buildings have been secured has called forth the expression of approval from the Committee of Council of Education, through their architect.

We have anxiously sought to make your schools models as regards construction and the educational appliances they contain.

We have most carefully selected a large staff of teachers, and have laid down a course of instruction which will, we hope, prove thoroughly efficient.

We have enforced the attendance of neglected children, but have so administered compulsion as to have met with hardly any resistance from those exposed to its operation. As a result, comparing the spring of 1871 with the present time, there has been an increase in the average attendance at efficient schools of nearly 60,000 children.

Industrial education has not been overlooked.

These great results have been secured at the smallest possible cost to the ratepayers. The entire amount received up to the present time amounts to little more than a rate of a half-penny in the pound per annum. The whole cost of the sites and buildings of the new schools will be defrayed by an annual rate of the same amount. When all the schools are at work a rate of 1½d. will be all that will be required for the expenses of their maintenance. Thus a rate of about 2d. in the pound will cover the entire cost of a complete system of efficient education for the children of the whole metropolis hitherto unprovided with schools. Who will grudge this, excepting those who, for obvious motives, affect horror at this trifling outlay, in order to frighten the ratepayers from securing popular education?

I have assisted in the good work, as I have assisted the advance of education all through my life, and in times when the cry for it was far from being so universal as now. My principles have been constantly before you. They have been uttered persistently from the platform and in the press, and therefore I feel that, without detailing them, I may ask for a renewal of your trust to bear my part in completing the work so successfully begun, with a certainty that what I have done entitles me to solicit your confidence.

An attempt is being made to undo the work the London School Board have effected during the past three laborious years, but I trust that it will be frustrated, for they who are striving to displace me do but regret that so much has been done to carry out the requirements of the Act, and, if elected, will seek to render the intentions of Mr. Forster's legislation inoperative.

I ask you to judge between us—to judge of what I will do by all I have hitherto done, and I confidently leave the decision in your hands.

Yours respectfully, JOHN BENNETT.
Cheapside, November 13th, 1873.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

“S. L.”—His letter would, we are sure, be distasteful to the gentleman whom he so emphatically eulogises, and whose seat can hardly be in danger.

CORRECTIONS.—In our article last week entitled “The Times on Free Land,” an important omission occurs which completely alters the sense of the second sentence in the second paragraph. Instead of—“that the abolition of the existing system of entail would be of very little use” read—“that the abolition of the Law of Primogeniture, without further limitation of the existing system of entail, would be of very little use.” In the last sentence but one from the end of the article, instead of “indictment against our landlords” read—“indictment against our land laws.”

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1873.

SUMMARY.

THE result of the school board elections in many of our large towns has been made known during the past week, and the ratepayers of Leeds, Bradford, Nottingham, and Middlesbrough have followed the excellent example set them by Birmingham. In each of these places the vote of three years ago has been reversed, and Liberal educationists are in a majority on the local school boards. The new board for Leeds will consist of eight Liberals, of different shades of opinion five Churchmen and two Roman Catholics; the three Wesleyans being rejected. The Liberals of Leeds have won two seats, and have thus secured a clear majority on the new board. At Bradford the “Liberal eight” have all triumphed, having now a majority on the board. Each of the three Wesleyans was rejected, and Mr. Ripley came in by means of Tory plumpers at the expense of his brother denominationalists. At Nottingham the Liberals have won seven out of thirteen seats. At Wolverhampton the Church and Roman Catholics still maintain their ascendancy. The Liverpool School Board election has resulted in the return of five Roman Catholics (who headed the poll), five anti-concurrent endowment Churchmen, two secular educationists, two Wesleyan Methodists who are in favour of religious but not denominational education, and one clergyman who will support concurrent endowment. If the Church organs regard this as a triumph they are welcome to the consolation. During the next three years there will not, we venture to think, be any large sum paid for school fees out of the rates in Liverpool.

To-morrow the elections for the forty-nine seats of the London School Board will take

place—the question at issue being not whether religious instruction shall be given in board schools, but whether about a score of Churchmen, chiefly clergymen, put forward by the National Society, shall be returned, and thus be enabled to reverse the policy of the last three years. In a large number of the London churches on Sunday, the “pulpit drum ecclesiastic” was assiduously beaten on behalf of clerical ascendancy in education. Nothing but the extreme difficulty of enlightening so vast a mass of electors will prevent the overthrow of this audacious crusade. The case to be decided at the poll is put with much point in the *Daily News*:—“What the ratepayers of London have to decide to-morrow is whether they will keep the education of the people in their own hands or put it into the hands of the clergy; whether they will invest money in building good schools of their own or pay large annual sums to the clerical schools; whether the national schoolmaster shall be responsible to the people or be the agent of the priesthood. The only fear is that by the want of organisation on the Liberal side the clerical parties should snatch a temporary victory to-morrow which will plunge the whole educational system once more into the cauldron of polemical strife. This calamity can only be avoided by every Liberal ratepayer going to the poll, and taking care that, to whomsoever he may give his vote, it will tell against the clerical candidates and all the persons who are associated with them.”

There seems to be considerable difficulty in reconstructing the French Ministry, but there is no doubt that the Duc de Broglie will remain at its head, and his new colleagues will probably be men who will find favour with the Left Centre; and there are signs of a disposition to conciliate the Liberals in the composition of the Committee of Thirty, which is to draft the constitutional laws. Meanwhile, the Comte de Chambord has been in France, possibly in Paris, to see things with his own eyes; and if the somewhat oracular language of the *Union*, his special organ, has any meaning, the Comte is about to surrender his claim to the French throne. This would give a new aspect to French politics, and perhaps pave the way for the adoption of the constitutional monarchy, under the auspices of the Comte de Paris.

Mr. Richard, M.P., is working successfully on the continent on behalf of the cause of international arbitration. In the Italian Chamber of Deputies on Monday a motion in support of the principle moved by M. Mancini, and cordially endorsed by the Government, was unanimously carried. The vote may have no immediate effect, but its moral influence will be considerable. Rome was not built in a day. When public opinion throughout Europe is won over, practical statesmen will not fail to find adequate means of giving effect to the principle of international arbitration.

Whether such a course could be successfully proposed in relation to the serious Cuban complication is not yet apparent. The American Government, while ready to make allowances for the extremely trying position of Senor Castelar, continue to make warlike preparations, and have made certain demands on the Cabinet of Madrid of the nature of an ultimatum. General Sickles has been instructed to request the surrender the Virginians to the United States with the survivors of the crew and passengers, to apologise for the insult to the United States, indemnify the relatives of the slain; that the executioners of the Santiago victims shall be punished or surrendered for punishment, and that American confiscated property shall be immediately restored. Coupled with this is the expression of a strong desire on the part of the American Government for the abolition of slavery in Cuba. Unless with the consent of the sanguinary faction that exercises supreme authority in Cuba, these demands cannot be complied with, and according to a telegram from Havannah, “the people are determined to make no concessions.” The American Congress will meet early in December, and till the Senate has deliberated and voted on the question, General Grant will take no action beyond sending a fleet to Cuban waters. If the slaveowners of that island insist upon acting on their own behalf, and resisting all reparation, it will relieve Senor Castelar from much anxiety, and save Spain from an incubus in the shape of an unprofitable possession.

The news from India, though bad enough, is less serious than was at one time expected. The scarcity in Bengal will affect about twenty-four millions of people, but it is hoped that Madras and Bombay will be spared the horrors of famine. The British Government are thoroughly preparing for the emergency, and the Viceroy expresses confidence that the arrangements made, in the shape of relief

works, &c., are adequate to meet the emergency. Though the numbers who are deprived of food and the means of securing it are so overwhelming, there is no fear that the terrible experience of Orissa a few years ago, when hundreds of thousands died of starvation, will be repeated in Bengal. Much suffering there must be, but we hope the result will show the successful working of our administrative machinery in India.

MR. DISRAELI AT GLASGOW.

Mr. DISRAELI has had the public attention last week pretty much to himself. His speeches to various classes of the inhabitants of Glasgow have constituted for several days the chief topic of talk and of editorial comment throughout Great Britain. It is a proud, but also an anxiously responsible, position for any man to occupy. It is a culmination of a long series of arduous efforts and conspicuous triumphs, while, at the same time, it is a rare opportunity for educating the entire people of the realm. When Mr. Disraeli made his arrangements to visit Glasgow as Lord Rector of the University, his purpose, prompted by good taste and generous feeling, was to have abstained altogether from party politics. That purpose, however, was ultimately overruled, nor can we profess to regret that it was so. After he had delivered his inaugural address to the students of the University, briefly returned thanks for the gift to him of the freedom of the City, spoken chiefly on monetary affairs to the merchants who entertained him at a grand banquet, and received a deputation of working men who sought his advice and assistance as to the further abbreviation of factory labour, he was persuaded to address a public meeting called by the Glasgow Conservative Association with a view to give to a somewhat humbler grade of the population in the city an opportunity of paying their respect to him as a public man, and of listening to his oratory touching matters of present public interest. It need hardly be said that on all these occasions Mr. Disraeli acquitted himself with characteristic vigour, and, within those limits which circumscribe his political genius, with more than ordinary success.

Perhaps the first thoughts suggested by Mr. Disraeli's visit to Glasgow, and by the enthusiastic reception which has been given to him, is the gratifying one that commanding intellectual power and political position in this country, uniformly obtain respectful recognition from people of all political parties. Generally speaking, the sympathies of all men of average intelligence, whether north or south of the Tweed, go out spontaneously towards towards the leaders of thought or action amongst us, if not altogether irrespectively of party opinions, yet with profound admiration of mental and moral power. There is a sphere above that of mere politics, in which British minds can gladly lose sight of the colours which divide them at a Parliamentary election, and can unite in paying tribute to those qualities, the exercise of which, through a lengthened course of life, has raised the possessor of them to high eminence. The people of this country are keen enough in their political likes and dislikes; rough and merciless enough in their daily criticism of passing affairs; unbending enough when any urgent call is made upon them for displaying the strength of the principles by which they govern their course; but their social feelings are not entirely overlaid by the predilections or prejudices of political partisanship, and they can welcome with enthusiasm the man of great intellectual power, and lavish their hearty applause upon him, whether he be a Bright, a Gladstone, or a Disraeli. It is to be accounted as one of the most felicitous consequences of a long course of Parliamentary Government that political passions are, for the most part, kept within a political sphere, and are not suffered to intrude upon, or rudely disturb, that social region in which manhood, irrespectively of the particular form in which it may manifest itself, holds itself free to commune with manhood, and to pay such testimony of approbation as circumstances will justify.

We have intimated that Mr. Disraeli's oratory at Glasgow was characteristic of him. In some respects, he was at his best; in others, he fell below the level of his undoubted powers. In one respect, however, he is always the same; and whether he addresses himself to unfledged students, to sagacious merchants, to masses of working people, or to the House of Commons, few who hear him can escape the impression that he is acting the part of an advocate, rather than revealing his own individual inner man. He plays skillfully on a well-tuned instrument, but his loftiest strains fail to represent the depths of his own being. Whether

he has real political convictions, whether the principles which he professes are in any way associated with his affections or his will, whether, in fact, he is further interested in the movements which he plans and executes than a chess-player is interested in the progress of his game, it would be hard, perhaps uncharitable and presumptuous, to pronounce with confidence. Certainly, however, his political life, his party relations, his changes of policy and the striking intellectual force with which he defends them, do not leave behind them the impression that he is in earnest. He has quick perceptions, and, save under strong temptations, a well-regulated taste. He can put his thoughts into language so compact and epigrammatic that they sparkle with compressed intellectual fire. He not seldom tries the endurance of his hearers, and bores them with iterations, but then he has the faculty of kindling, every now and then, a brilliant phrase which flings light over the dreariest region he traverses. Perhaps he would not have gained his present eminence solely by his intellectual force and versatility. He owes very much to that appearance of insensibility which men in general describe as audacious. Whether he is self-conscious or not, he succeeds perfectly in the suppression of all show of it. Nobody can judge from his countenance or his gestures whether, when he is "making history," or stating facts backwards, or offering monstrous paradoxes to his antagonists, the idea is present to his own mind that he is thereby losing caste, and preparing for himself a punishment sure to overtake him. No man can deal with falsehood as if it were truth without doing damage to his faculty of moral perception. Whether he can do so without loss of self-respect must depend very much upon the depth of his moral susceptibilities. Mr. Disraeli is a splendid actor; it is doubtful whether, in his political capacity, he is anything more.

The speech which he addressed to his Conservative partisans on Saturday last was a fair, and even favourable, specimen of his rhetorical power. As a critic he always shines, even when he palpably misleads. He is the Blondin of the political world. He accomplishes the most incredible feats without giving too painful a shock to your nerves, and what he does in this way he usually does with surpassing self-reliance and pluck. His justification of his Bath letter was in its way a piece of daring equal to any performance of the supreme artist on the tight-rope. The audacity which it exhibited was almost unprecedented even in his career, and, sooth to say, he had quite enough truth within his reach to give a gloss of apparent sincerity to his whole speech. But Mr. Disraeli's habit of exaggeration gives to the pictures which he draws an aspect of glare which all that look upon them feel to be unnatural. There is scarcely a sentence in Saturday's oration which reveals the power of a statesman. Statesman, indeed, he is not, nor when he passes off the stage will he bequeath to posterity any solid evidence of having materially benefited his country. He talks well but not wisely, and his visit to Glasgow illustrates the wide difference there is between a man of large political capacity and a mere talker, however brilliant, about political affairs.

FRENCH PROSPECTS UNDER MACMAHON.

Now that the governmental crisis in France is over, and Marshal MacMahon's powers have been prolonged for a term of seven years, it is possible to get a truer view of the significance of what has happened than could be obtained amidst the excitement of the conflict. It is something new in France to see all parties striving to find cause of satisfaction in an arrangement which neither of them would have said beforehand was the best. Marshal MacMahon's re-election is a victory for the Right, who have won by a majority much greater than they had hoped for; but it is so far from being a total defeat of the Left, that it leaves them free to express the most confident hope. The Right yielded nothing in the debate, but they dared not enter upon it with any other proposal than that the Marshal should be elected President of the Republic. This was the title borne by M. Thiers; but that statesman was only chosen for an uncertain period, which was to terminate with the duration of the Assembly. Marshal MacMahon is chosen for a fixed term, and thus the Assembly has constituted the Republic for seven years the legal Government of France. Moderate men in France are acknowledging that, glad as they would have been to see the Republic established by its friends, there are obvious advantages in its being founded by its enemies. Whatever extreme Monarchists may

do, the statesmen of the party who lead the Right Centre must defend the Republic as their own work, and they know that the Republic is prolonged simultaneously with the powers of its President.

The Moderate Left find another ground of satisfaction in the declarations voluntarily made by the French Ministers in the name of Marshal MacMahon. The message which the President sent to the Assembly during the discussion of his powers, naturally excited the susceptibility of those who were seeking to obtain guarantees for liberty. But the Duc de Broglie was afterwards instructed to assure the Assembly that Marshal MacMahon neither sought nor desired a dictatorship, and that he would always govern according to the laws. The Marshal is undoubtedly a strong Conservative. In the political vocabulary of France this means that he thinks a strong Executive, not afraid to use its power, the first want of the country. But in this respect his professions do not differ much from the practice of M. Thiers, who maintained the state of siege over large towns, and suppressed newspapers without scruple, whenever he thought the interests of France required it. The readiness of French statesmen to resort to extra legal means of Government, is much to be regretted; but it is too common to be referred to exclusively personal causes. Politically, MacMahon is very ignorant, and for that, among other reasons, very timid—a weakness which he shares with the Assembly that elected him. He cannot, as could M. Thiers, see how far he might trust the people without endangering his power; and this is a great disadvantage in a ruler. But if the next few years should be years of peace and order, he may not be frightened into forgetfulness of his promise to govern constitutionally, and France may have time to learn those arts and habits of self-government, on which the existence of a Republic must depend.

The worst feature of the recent proceedings in the Assembly is of course the readiness of that body to seek the safety of France, not in wise and wholesome laws, but in the power of a man. Accordingly the prospects of France will depend for the most part on the manner in which this dependence is modified by legislation. Taken by itself, the vote of Wednesday last does not make good, and even liberal government impossible in France. There is at present nothing to prevent the enactment of Constitutional laws, under which the deliberate opinion of France may become the best guide for her government—nothing, that is to say, but the character of the present Assembly. If that ever-anxious and most jealous body had but the patriotism, like Silence in *Comus*, to "deny itself and lie no more," we might say that the prospects of Liberal government in France were very fair indeed. A wise and public-spirited statesman in MacMahon's place would have declined to accept the power offered him, save on condition, that as soon as the Executive was established the country should be enabled by a general election to send men in whom it had confidence, to pass the fundamental laws of the State. It is doubtful, however, whether in such a resolution Marshal MacMahon would have been sustained by many of the members who voted last week with the Left. The clinging of Liberal as well as of Conservative deputies to the remains of power, did much to weaken the Left last week. The Assembly is further than ever from distrusting its own constituent powers, and is about to proceed at once to the consideration of the constitutional laws which are to form the limits of the President's authority. Neither the past nor the present conduct of the Assembly warrants the hope that it will act with moderation and caution, which, becoming as they are in every constituent body, are peculiarly so in one which cannot claim to represent the public opinion of France.

Warned by the experience of a fortnight ago, when it was found that the system of nomination by bureaux gave the minority power to assert its views with effect, the Assembly has this week resolved that the committee on the Constitutional Laws shall be named by a majority of its whole Assembly. As therefore the Conservatives have a decided preponderance in the Assembly, it will be of their pure grace and favour if a single Liberal has a hand in the preparation of the bill which is to shape and settle the future Government of France. This exclusive spirit is of course not a consequence of the MacMahon vote of last week, but of the causes which have been at work since the meeting of the Assembly at Bordeaux. The majority of the Assembly will desire to do all it can to repress and nullify that public opinion in France which it has never ceased to dislike and fear. But it must observe some decency in its methods. It is not so easy to stifle a nation's sentiments by permanent laws as by the silent and incessant action of any army of functionaries.

The Assembly will certainly try to "regulate" universal suffrage. It would like to raise the legal age of voters and deputies, to require long terms of residence as electoral qualifications, and to increase the rigour of the laws against the press. Proposals of this kind are sure to be made, and we fear the Government is sure to adopt them. We shall hear before Christmas—if the Committee reports so soon—of fierce fights in the Assembly on these and other matters, and in all probability the laws ultimately passed will be of a very unsatisfactory kind. But if French Liberals will only be patient, they will find that they have the remedy for these evils in their own hands. Such elections as that which has just taken place in Normandy shew that even the most moderate of constituencies have set their faces against the ultra-conservative policy of the Duc de Broglie, and this being so, it will be possible even under a restricted suffrage, to return a truly Liberal Assembly whenever this present one is dissolved. Political life is reviving in France in a healthy form. There is no power in the country that dares dispense with representative institutions, and a free Parliament may do anything, including the reform of bad Constitutional Laws.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

The elections for the School Board of London take place to-morrow. The board consists of forty-nine members, who are returned by the ten divisions of the metropolis. The City of London elects 4; Chelsea, 4; Finsbury, 6; Greenwich, 4; Hackney, 5; Lambeth, 5; Marylebone, 7; Southwark, 4; the Tower Hamlets, 5; and Westminster, 5. For the forty-nine seats there were seventy-five candidates at the closing of the nomination lists, and in all the ten divisions there will be contests except Finsbury, where the candidates equal the required number of members. The votes to-morrow will be taken by ballot, and the polling booths will remain open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. It also deserves mention that females who are ratepayers are qualified to vote. As soon as the polls are closed the ballot-boxes are to be conveyed and given into the custody of the deputy returning officer of each district, at some central place of deposit. With as much despatch as possible that functionary counts the votes, and having made up the tale, forwards it to the Recorder of London, Mr. Russell Gurney, the returning officer in chief, who publicly notifies the names of the successful candidates in each division. Considering the immense body of voters in the metropolitan divisions, it is not likely that the result of the several contests will be made known before Saturday.

The most remarkable feature of the present elections is, as we have more than once pointed out, the appearance of a number of candidates, about twenty in all, and mostly clergymen, who are *par excellence* the "Church" candidates. They come forward to represent the views expressed at the recent meeting at St. James's Hall, over which the Bishop of London presided, and their candidature is promoted by a large and influential committee of which Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Salisbury are influential members, and the Rev. J. Duncan, Secretary of the National Society, is the managing secretary. Their object is to protect existing denominational schools from the competition of board schools, and to frighten the ratepayers into supporting their candidates on grounds of economy. For this purpose placards have been posted and bills distributed by thousands in each division containing the gross misrepresentations recently exposed in our columns. The only variation in these bills is the change of names at the foot, according to the candidates recommended by the National Society's Committee. Of the forty members of the present board thirty seek re-election; but it would seem that few of them, albeit staunch Churchmen, find favour with the Church Committee, who are paying all the expenses of their faithful *protégés*. It is even said that only Canon Cromwell, who stands for Chelsea, faithfully reflects their views. The chief exponent of the objects of this committee outside the board, and apparently the instigator of the whole movement, is the Rev. Mr. Gregory, Canon of St. Paul's, who has already succeeded in giving to the services of the metropolitan cathedral a Ritualistic flavour, and who, with Canon Liddon some time since, dared the Bishop of London to prosecute him for violating the law as laid down in the Purchas judgment. It is, however, with sacerdotalists of this stamp that Lord Shaftesbury and other Evangelical Churchmen have, without any regard to

appearances, entered into a temporary alliance for the purpose of undoing or thwarting the policy carried out by the present board.

In Chelsea there are six candidates for the four seats. The retiring members seeking re-election are Mr. R. Freeman (an advocate of the board's past policy) and the Rev. Canon Cromwell. The new candidates are the Rev. C. Darby Reade, Church candidate; Dr. J. H. Gladstone, who is in favour of unsectarian religious education; the Rev. R. G. Macmullen (Roman Catholic), and Mrs. Arthur Arnold. Lord Lawrence, the retiring chairman of the board, represented Chelsea.

In the City of London, represented by four members, the old members come forward jointly. They are Sir John Bennett, who is in favour of the League programme, and whose address appears elsewhere, Mr. Alderman Cotton, a Churchman, but Liberal in his views, Mr. W. Sutton Gover, a Nonconformist, and Mr. Morley, M.P., also a Nonconformist, and favourable to unsectarian education. Mrs. Burbury, a general supporter of the policy of the board, is also a candidate. The combined High and Low Churchmen who want to change the policy of the board are the Rev. Canon Gregory and Mr. Peek, and it is understood that all the machinery of the city churches has been put in action on their behalf.

In Finsbury there is no contest, and the nominations for the seven vacancies will hold good. The virtual members for this division are the old members, Mr. Chatfield Clarke (League), Mr. Lucraft (League and working class), the Rev. J. Rodgers, and Mr. E. Tabram. Mr. Rodgers, the rector of St. Thomas's Charterhouse, has always acted with the most liberal members of the old board. The vacancies created for this division by the retirement of Sir Francis Lycett (Wesleyan) and Mr. Hugh Owen (Unsectarian), will be filled by the Rev. R. Maguire, vicar of Clerkenwell, and Mr. Lovell, both of whom are endorsed by the National Society's committee. Thus the Church has gained two seats for Finsbury without a contest.

In Greenwich there are seven candidates for the four seats. The old members seeking re-election are Mr. Henry Gover (Nonconformist) who was elected on the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Miller; Mr. J. Macgregor, who supports the board's policy; and the Rev. Benjamin Waugh (Congregationalist). The new candidates are Mr. H. Broadhurst, who specially seeks the suffrages of the working men; the Hon. and Rev. Augustus Legge, a Churchman recommended by the National Society's committee; and Miss Guest, who is favourable to the past policy of the board, and claims the seat from which Miss Emily Davies retires, and will generally support the policy of the board.

In Hackney, Mr. Charles Reed, M.P. (vice-chairman of the board), Mr. J. H. Crossman, and the Rev. J. Allanson Picton, M.A., offer themselves for re-election. Five fresh candidates appear in the field to join in the contest for the five seats, namely, the Rev. J. G. Pilkington and Mr. Foster, who, in an address jointly issued, show valiant fight against opponents who do not exist by declaring themselves "strongly opposed to the efforts of those who would, by driving out the Word of God, deprive the children of, perhaps, their only opportunity of learning its lessons;" Mr. T. B. Stephenson (Wesleyan), Mr. Sargent, and Mr. Jones, who are not hostile to the past policy of the board. Mr. Crossman, as well as the other old members, supports the policy of the board, and Mr. Picton will receive generally the votes of the artisans of Hackney, who are making special efforts to secure his return.

There are seven candidates for the five vacant seats in Lambeth—Mr. Stiff (Unsectarian), being the only member seeking re-election. His views are shared by Mr. Hugh Wallace, and the Rev. G. M. Murphy (Congregationalist). The Church party have brought forward no less than four candidates for this division, viz., the Rev. Evan Daniel, Principal of Battersea Training College, the Rev. Mr. Tugwell, Mr. Hellier, a schoolmaster, and Mr. Morgan. The Liberal candidates propose that their supporters shall distribute their votes so that they may be as nearly as possible equal.

Thirteen gentlemen and two ladies will contest the seven seats which Marylebone has on the board; Dr. Angus, Regent's-park College, and Mr. James Watson, the chairman of the statistical committee, being old members. The new candidates are Miss Chessar and Mrs. Herbert Cowell, who generally approve the board's policy; Mr. Maltman Michael Barry, a working-man's candidate; the Rev. Dr. Irons, Mr. J. H. Heal, and Mr. Arthur Mills, partisans of the Church, and approved by the National Society's

committee; the Rev. Llewelyn Bevan, minister of the Tottenham-court-road Chapel, and a member of the League; Mr. Llewellyn Mostyn and Mr. D. J. Reardon, Roman Catholics; and Messrs. Dyason, Griffiths, Hawkins, and Richardson, who profess "independence" and "economy."

In Southwark there are six candidates for the four places. The Rev. J. B. Ingle and Mr. Alfred Lafone offer themselves for re-election, and support the policy of the board. Mr. W. J. Haynes is a working man's candidate. The Rev. R. M. Martin and Mr. Alfred Side are Church candidates. The Rev. J. Sinclair (Congregationalist) is supported by the Nonconformists.

In the Tower Hamlets there are seven candidates for the five seats. All the old members offer themselves for re-election. They are Mr. E. N. Buxton, Mr. E. H. Currie, Mr. W. Pearce, and Mr. Thomas Scrutton, who support the board's policy, and Mr. A. Langdale, Roman Catholic, who is not opposed to the existing compromise. The Church candidate is the Rev. Joseph Bardsley. Mr. Evans is a Churchman nominated against his wish. The candidature of Mr. Bardsley (who is an Evangelical) has excited a strong feeling in the division.

In Westminster there are five vacancies and six candidates. The National Society's committee do not interfere with this division, but leave the Rev. Dr. Barry and Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., moderate supporters of the board's policy, to fight their own battle. The Rev. Dr. Rigg (Wesleyan) who has to a considerable extent sided with his Church colleagues, seeks re-election. Lord Napier and Ettrick, and Mr. G. T. Miller are moderate Church candidates. The working men and Nonconformists unite in support of Mr. George Potter, who has an influential committee composed of prominent Liberals, M.P.'s, and others, and will be probably be carried in.

In each of these divisions, except Finsbury, there have been meetings during the past week in support of the several candidates, but for all practical purposes it would be useless to characterise them. It is evident, however, that the objects of the "ecclesiastical war-whoop," raised by Canon Gregory and the National Society, are coming to be better understood by the ratepayers of the metropolis, and that there is a good deal of interest excited by to-morrow's elections. The clerical agitators have taken up a very untenable position, and done themselves irretrievable damage. If the electors do their duty it is not likely that many of the Church clergymen, who have so suddenly come forward, will be elected to the new school board of London, or be able to undo the work which the present members of the board have so laboriously promoted.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION LECTURES.

"THE MEN OF THE MAYFLOWER."

The first lecture of the course announced by this association was delivered on Monday evening, at Exeter Hall, by the Rev. Dr. Morley Punshon. The hall was completely filled before the time for the commencement of the lecture, and numbers were unable to gain admittance. Mr. J. D. Allcroft occupied the chair, and amongst those present were the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., W. M'Arthur, M.P., the Revs. Dr. Raleigh, H. Tarlton, and Braden; Messrs. J. K. Welch, H. R. Ellington, &c. After prayer by the Rev. Mr. Niven,

Mr. Punshon rose to deliver his lecture on "The Men of the Mayflower," and was most cordially received. He said—"It may safely be affirmed that nothing is so interesting to men as man. There is no force like that of sympathy. Our interest can gather about a thing or a principle, but our hearts must go out to it. We can feel interest in some place, but it is because some man has there done something sublime. There are two common mistakes: one is to fasten our admiration on one whom we cannot approach, and the other is to shrink back from the object. But there is a higher, a more enduring greatness in greatness of soul. The greatest men of the world are not always canonised. They may be clad in bright apparel, but where there is one that basks in the light for the sake of it, and seeks only for the right, standing before men to maintain a great principle, counting all things loss so that he can do his duty, and sacrifices himself for others' good, kings may be silent in his presence, and his greatness shall abide for ever. Of such type of greatness—moral rather than intellectual—were the men of whom I speak to-night. Plymouth in New England was a place well suited to such spirits. "Forefathers' Rock," where they landed, and "God's Acre," where they lie, are still to be seen, although their actual graves are not identified—perhaps they are hidden lest avarice should make a gain of them, or superstition canonise their bones. Let us glance at their history. A great thought is like seed that is ever reproducing itself, and there is more than one harvest in the seed that is sown. Puritanism was a late-born child of the Reformation. The full bearing of that great change was not at once appa-

rent. Long after the actual separation from Rome the spirit of Rome remained. The germ of religious freedom was in the Reformation, but the ages had to wait for the germinating of the idea. Luther, Melancthon, and Calvin wrestled for a truth which they did not fully understand. And so it was with their successors, and the history of the Church during the reign of Queen Mary shows that it was a struggle for supremacy. Both prelate and presbyter were held in the yoke of bondage, and they could not see that outside of it there might be an undying principle. In the reign of Elizabeth the struggle between prelate and presbyter was continued. The Queen had a strong will of her own, and she required implicit obedience in the Church of which she was the head. When James came to the throne the Presbyterians took heart again; for had he not been educated in their views? and toleration would surely be given. But they were mistaken. The character of James was a curious combination of courage and cowardice, and he so blundered in his Government that people said he must have left his wife behind him when he crossed the Tweed. He flaunted his authority by Divine right before his Parliament while he yet cringed before them. He knew nothing of kingly reticence and the power of conceding when the position could no longer be maintained; and so he got his people's scorn. Although he deemed himself the model of a king, he also deemed himself a man of learning, and his crafty followers would allow him to beat them in argument, for then he would give them anything. A petition was presented to him—how history repeats itself!—(cheers)—signed by 800 ministers, praying for removal of abuses in the Church. The University of Oxford issued a reply, and the King determined to assemble a conference at which, of course, he would be chief disputer. It was a delusion and a snare. After the seven bishops had argued, the King himself spoke and concluded by asking Dr. Reynolds if he had any more to say, and when he answered no, said, "If this be all they have to say for themselves I will make them conform, or I will harry them out of the kingdom." The machinery for this purpose was not wanting. The Court of High Commission was established, and their spies hovered around the farms all over the country. The Separatists at Scroby were driven to the consideration of what they were to do. If they remained in the land there were two courses open to them—conformity, to the prejudice of their conscience, or non-conformity, with sequestration of their goods. In those days men's consciences were made of sturdy stuff. Perhaps they are of slender material now. But when the faith was founded on principle there was not one who would cringe and go down to the grave dishonoured. There was a third course, however. The Low Country of Holland offered an asylum, and thither they resolved to flee. It involved great sacrifices, but there they could secure liberty of conscience. In the carrying out of their design, however, they met with great hindrances. Their persecutors tried to stop them at the seaports. A ship was engaged to carry them from Boston to Amsterdam, but it did not arrive for some days, and when it did they found themselves betrayed. The next spring they bargained with a Dutch captain, and they were to embark from the Humber, but before they could all get on board the skipper set sail with only part of them, and they could see their friends falling into the hands of their persecutors. How dark are the ways in which God's people are sometimes compelled to walk! The enforced hiding in the old Boston seaport was not, however, without result. The minister there, John Cotton, was of High Church proclivities, well born and so well educated that he was called "a walking library." Laud persecuted him, and he got over to America with Stone and Thomas Hooker. And it was commonly said that Providence had provided for all the wants of the emigrants in giving them a Hooker for fishing Stone for their buildings, and Cotton for their clothes. Cotton went to New England impressed with the idea of a theocracy, which in wisdom and intolerance might rival that of ancient Israel. But his kindness of nature kept his will in check. His patience was illimitable, and it is related that on one occasion he was interviewed by one of those bores who turn up in every church to interpret the Apocalypse. After listening for two hours to his arguments Cotton said, "I am conscious of wanting light upon this matter still," upon which his tormentor went away in a rage and sent him a pound of tallow candles! But from his Boston pulpit he shed much light, as his epitaph testifies. The pilgrims in Holland during their nine years' residence there had a hard job to live, and they had to borrow money from the lenders, who were glad to supply them because they knew that they would be repaid, and in the midst of all their trials, their peace, and their Sabbaths, flashed a light across their lives. After nine years' residence in Leyden, they considered whether they could not better themselves. They felt that they were strong still, and they did not like their children to be exposed to the example of the Dutch Boers, whose habits are well depicted by Teniers. Emigration to America was proposed, and although the perils of it made the old hearts chill, the younger and bolder spirits triumphed, and so putting on the pilgrims' sandals they determined to start out. Guiana was first thought of, but at last they decided to go to America. They tried to obtain a charter from King James, but he refused to grant them one. The Speedwell, a small ship of some sixty tons,

was bought and fitted in Holland, and the Mayflower, 180 tons, was hired in London. Soon there was embarked in these little vessels a cargo of men, rough perhaps in their manners and exterior, but each one of them a king with two hands and one heart, and who only asked for liberty and a sky broad enough for freedom to worship God. Their parting with those who remained behind was an affecting scene with many elements of the sublime. John Robinson, their minister, was not among those who sailed, but remained behind with the larger portion of his flock. He was a broad-souled man in the midst of extreme narrowness, in things indifferent pliable, in things essential sturdy as an oak, a soul in which the martyr's spirit dwelt, and yet mild. He was one of the rare gifts which God gives to the race when they are needed. His people looked up to him, and, like Moses, he ruled them, and like him his heart was in their exodus, and he gazed towards the land to which he could not go. A solemn fast and humiliation was appointed, and he preached to his people from Ezra viii. 21. The discourse remains only in fragments. Although he was in advance of his age he was not an intellectual prodigy. His library was in deepest reverence to the Divine Word. He had no sympathy with those who push liberty to ribaldry. Abhorrent to every thought of that great man, was what men now call progress, while they stand like children quarrelling with their toys. There he stands, that valiant servant of the Cross, shaded now by the shadow of separation, but supported by a mighty faith. "Brethren," he says, "we are now about to separate, and I may see your face no more, but I charge you to follow me only so far as I follow Christ, for God has yet more light to break forth out of His Holy Word." "Out of His Holy Word!" It is there that the man of freedom takes his stand, and within that the man limits progress. Base your claims of progress on the Holy Word, and you shall have a struggle which shall last through all the ages. All the ages may be instructed from the old Pastor of Leyden, and our own age needs it as well as others. The school of Voltaire has given place to a school that compliments the Christianity which they secretly undermine. But the brave old book lives on, and is not likely to be worsted now by its enemies, and it is quietly doing its work—the root of all progress and the flower of all liberty—man's undying charter and God's unchanging word. On the 5th August, 1620, the Speedwell and the Mayflower sailed from Southampton. But the Speedwell, despite her name, did not speed well, and they were obliged to put into Dartmouth for repairs and afterward to Plymouth, where, like Gideon's army, they were winnowed until only 100 souls remained on board the Mayflower when she at last set sail to brave the perils of the deep. Glancing into the cabin, we see an elderly man with a determined face and a broad back. He moves with dignity, and with his cautious words, while he takes you in with his eye, he does not commit himself to any course. This is Deacon John Carver. He is wise and brave and safe, and he is the elder of a company that still reverence age. William Brewster, a man of address and culture, who had been secretary to William Davidson, is also there, and we may learn something of his experience from the names which he gave his five children—Jonathan, Wrestling, Patience, Fear, Love—though why Fear was the name of his daughter, and Love of one of his sons, we have no clue. He mastered five languages, and was the historian of these successors of the Apostles. He maintained his citizenship in two worlds, and was the business head of the party. Edward Winslow is also there, and a portrait of him is still in existence. Deacon Samuel Fuller, the physician, brisk and active, with bright locks of flowing hair, was there, with John Alden also, said to have been the first to land and the last to die. On deck, pacing up and down, is the little great captain himself, Miles Standish, broad-shouldered and brown as a nut, his beard flecked with streaks of snow like the hedgerows in December. Quick tempered and hot, it was yet surely God's providence that led him to identify himself with the Puritans, although it is not known that he ever joined their communion. The ill-success of his first wooing did not deter him from an after wooing, and he had children's children gazing up into his eyes before he died, at the age of seventy-two. Look at these men lifted up above their fellows just because they believe in an old-fashioned thing they called conscience. They had privileges so dear to them that they could not forego them. They did not think themselves heroes, and judged by the world's standard they were sadly deficient. But they still live in our memories, for from their principle and the seed they sowed we have now a million harvests, and wherever truth is revered they are revered, and hearts keep time to the anthem which they sang. It is something to contemplate these men going to a distant land, across the stormy ocean, towards an ice-bound coast of which they knew but little. On the 9th November they sighted land, and a party of eighteen landed to explore the country. But the little vessel lay exposed to the storm until they got under the island. An incident occurred then which illustrates that great principle which was the secret of all their acts, for although anxious to land after sixty-two days' voyage, yet it being the Sabbath-day, they would not move an oar, but spent the day as usual in prayer and worship. "Rigid!" some may say; "Sin against the fatherhood of God!" cries another. Well, but they believed in a Divine command which they had no dispensation to renounce. They

thought it their duty, and they did it when the doing of it was heroism. The frail shallop, the darkening sky, the spray dashing over them, the broken rudder and mast, the roaring boulders, together with their sickness and longing for land, and yet a quiet Sabbath-day with Litany and Psalm, all make up a picture which I am powerless to paint, but to which I know of nothing similar, except the story of the holy women of old who waited with the spices all in readiness to embalm their Saviour's body until the Sabbath was passed. Look in upon the colony and at its laws. All who came in the Mayflower were not of the Puritan spirit, and those who came afterwards were unruly. The Government was patriarchal, and twelve years after their settlement a law was passed that every one who refused the office of governor should pay 20*l*. Church-membership by another law was made the test of citizenship, and they only were allowed to vote. Trial by jury was established in 1603. Compulsory education was also enforced, and 12*l*. was to be raised for the teacher's support. Freemen must be twenty-one years of age, and orthodox. Horse-racing was forbidden, and walking about late at night also. Drunkards were fined, and their names posted. Sumptuary laws were also passed. The Puritan fathers died as stacks of corn are gathered, but their spirit did not die, and it still flows on like a river blessing all and waits to mould and establish the nations till the millennium dawns. Their principles had life in them. Honest industry, calm endurance, a conscience purged from remorseful memories, and faith in a brighter future, these are some of the principles for which these men of the Mayflower suffered, and the lessons of their lives live, though we are slow to apprehend them.

Mr. Punshon sat down amid great applause, having spoken for nearly two hours, and the meeting was brought to a close with the singing of the doxology and the benediction.

A STRANGE STORY.—The following letter appears in the *Lancet*:—"Before the subject and witness of it pass away, allow me to record, in a few words, a strange story. Eli H—, aged about seventy-five years, is now living in a village near this town. Before he was born his father made a vow that if his wife, then pregnant, should bring him a girl, she having had three in succession, he would never speak to the child as long as he lived. The child turned out to be a boy. And now what is most strange and remarkable occurred. This boy would never speak to his father. Moreover, during his father's lifetime, he would never speak to anyone but his mother and three sisters. As soon as his father died, he being then thirty-five years old, his tongue was unloosed to everyone, and he has remained an ordinary loquacious individual ever since. The verification of this strange story is easy enough. Every one in the village was acquainted with 'dumb Eli,' and numerous living witnesses remember his dumbness passing away. Of course, this man's condition was popularly regarded as a judgment. It was at least a most curious instance of mysterious influence which may be interesting to many of your readers.—F. MAYHEW, Glastonbury, November 6, 1873."

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE FOR INFANTS.—The half-yearly general court and election of the above institution was held on Friday at the London Tavern, under the presidency of Mr. Horace Marshall. Mr. Soul, the hon. secretary, read a statement showing the present position of the institution. The number of children in the orphanage after the election in May last was 117, and 12 more would be admitted on the present occasion from a list of 46 approved candidates. The two girls who received the highest number of votes would, under the new rules, be retained in the orphanage until the age of sixteen, to be trained either as nurses or domestic servants, and all the children are now retained until nine years of age, instead of leaving at eight years as heretofore. The average cost per child during the past year, including all charges, was 21*l*. 9*s*. 5*d*. The committee earnestly appeal for funds. At the present time they have outstanding liabilities from the Midsummer and Michaelmas accounts which they were unable to discharge, and the sum immediately required is 500*l*. The committee gratefully acknowledge the sum of 185*l*. contributed at the collection after a sermon by the Rev. Mark Pearse, at Mostyn-road Chapel, on Sunday morning, October 26. The statement then entered into a number of statistical returns connected with the institution for the purpose of disproving the charges made against voting charities at the late Mansion House meeting. The chairman then addressed the meeting at some length upon the management of what were termed voting charities. He desired, from his own practical knowledge, to give a most emphatic denial to the statements put forth respecting these charities by Sir Charles Trevelyan and his colleagues of the Charity Organisation Society. He adduced several instances where, within the last four years, children had been elected into their orphanage without going to a sixpence expense for the printing of cards and circulars. No doubt, as in all other institutions, some improvement could be made in the management of them, but not in the wild and impractical direction advocated by the Mansion House theorists, who had no practical knowledge of the important question with which they were dealing. The routine business having been transacted, the election was then proceeded with.

Literature.

PLUTARCH.*

Archbishop Trench is learned, but without any of the heaviness that too often accompanies learning. He has a fine sense of proportion, and of the salient points in life and character—in one word, he has in large measure the biographic instinct. It is odd that Plutarch, who did so much to make us understand the men and the tendencies of his time, has been himself so much misunderstood. His "Parallel Lives"—in which he made a fine biographic companionship of great Greeks and Romans—has always been largely read, but the author was often misrepresented because "his Morals" were left unstudied, and the man too often viewed apart from the circumstances and the conditions amid which he wrote. It was in the decline of Greek life and thought, when the Greeks sought refreshment and new incitements to effort by visiting the cities of Italy, and holding intercourse with the celebrities of other countries. The Greek life had become sadly self-conscious by then; "the cultivated fields of Greece were lonely sheep-walks; her flourishing cities had dwindled into petty villages"; there was jealousy everywhere, and amidst it a certain aim at cosmopolitanism, which was assuredly, though it may have been unconsciously, reflected in Plutarch's "Lives." He was fain to show to the Greeks of his day that former ages had displayed a noble breed—their forefathers—and that though they were even set alongside the later race of Romans they need not fear the comparison. Dr. Trench eloquently writes:—

"At Rome, too, if there was not the same perishing of strength and manhood, if the great sinful city sat throned on her seven hills, the object of the world's worship and wonder, there was much which may well have moved a thoughtful student of history to hold up before the living generation a faithful portraiture of what their fathers once had been; to remind them by what virtues, by what temperance, what frugality, what self-sacrifice those had made, and in a sense had deserved to make, the world their own; if so be he might bring the men of his own time to recognise how far they had fallen, how much farther they were in danger of falling, from those moral heights on which their forefathers had walked of old. He must have felt that for Rome also her roll of creative men was well nigh completed, that her mightiest and best were in the past, that it was time to gather up the records of these, to set them forth in their good and in their evil, in all which they offered of example, in all which they afforded of warning to his own contemporaries and to the after world.

But beyond this Plutarch had an ethical purpose; and it is by clearly enforcing this, and illustrating it by reference to his "Morals"—a much less studied book than his "Lives"—that Archbishop Trench has contrived to give unity and completeness to his sketch of Plutarch's character. It is very odd to find that Plutarch—the open-minded inquirer, the unbiased, patient, philosophically-minded man who often approaches closely on points of Christian morality, yet does not discover in all his writings a suggestion that he had ever even heard of it. Dr. Trench significantly writes:—

"Plutarch himself may be entirely acquitted of any conscious attempt to fight against the truth which was higher than any which he had, and which within two centuries was to take the world as its own. Strange to say, Christianity is to him utterly unknown. Even such passing notices as we have of it in Tacitus, in Suetonius, in Epictetus, would be sought in his writings in vain. As far as has hitherto been traced, there is in these no single distinct reference, not so much as an allusion, to it. When we call to mind his extensive travels, his insatiable curiosity, the profound interest which he felt in all moral and religious speculations, the manner in which he was instinctively drawn to whatever was noblest and best, we could have no more remarkable commentary than this on the words of Scripture, 'The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation.' If we place his birth, as I have suggested, at about the year A.D. 50, than long before he began to write, St. Peter and St. Paul must have finished their course. All around him at Rome, where he dwelt so long, in that Greece where the best part of his life was spent, in Asia Minor, with which Greece was in constant communication, in Macedonia, there were flourishing churches. Christianity, if I may so say, was everywhere in the air; so that men unconsciously inhaled some of its influences, even where they did not submit themselves to its positive teaching. But for all this, no word, no allusion of his testifies to his knowledge of the existence of these churches, or to the slightest acquaintance on his part with the Christian books. Of such an acquaintance, whether mediate or immediate, it seems to me that we can hardly refuse to acknowledge some traces and tokens in the writings of Seneca and Epictetus, but none in his. If any notices of that sect, which was still everywhere spoken against, and which his contemporary Pliny could style 'a perverse and excessive superstition,' reached his ears, he probably looked at it as a mere variety of Judaism; for of that he often speaks, although without any insight into its true significance, and, like most of the Greek and Latin writers of the time, seeing it only on its least attractive, or, we might say, its most repulsive side.

* *Plutarch: His Life, His Lives and His Morals.* Four Lectures. By RICHARD CHENEVIX TRENCH, D.D., Archbishop of Dublin. (Macmillan and Co.)

Dr. Trench regards Plutarch at aiming at a reconciliation of the old faith with right reason and conscience. In this attempt Plutarch failed as others did. The old bottles could not hold the new wine that humanity, having wholly exhausted the old, now impatiently demanded. Dr. Trench gives many expressions from Plutarch which look wonderfully like reflections or anticipations of Christianity. Of these coincidences, the following are perhaps the most remarkable:—

"Herein are we mightily deceived, that we think men are become unjust then only, and not before, when they do injury; or dissolute, when they play some insolent and loose part; cowardly-minded, when they run out of the field; as if a man should have the conceit, that the sting in a serpent was then bred, and not before, when he gave the first prick; or the poison in vipers was engendered then only when they bit or stung; which surely were great simplicity and mere childishness: for a wicked person becometh not then such an one, even when he appeareth so, and not before; but he hath the rudiments and beginnings of vice and naughtiness imprinted in himself; but he showeth and useth the same, when he hath means, fit occasion, good opportunity, and might answerable to his mind."

Or take this as another instance:—

"If thou wilt anatomise and open thyself, thou shalt find within a storehouse and treasure of many evils and maladies, and those of divers and sundry sorts, not entering and running in from abroad, but having their original sources springing out of the ground and home-bred, the which vice, abundant, rich, and plenteous in passions, putteth forth."

Altogether this is a most interesting and pleasant volume. It shows fine sympathy, patient tact, and power of dwelling on conflicting sides of a subject till light breaks in on them; and it will be found of deep interest to readers generally, as well as to students and men of letters.

"ONLY A BUTTERFLY."

This novel has all Miss Craik's unaffected brightness and clearness of style, but it is constructed on too low a level of interest for ever being popular. She has shown us how cleverly she can handle common materials; and as perhaps from the first she meant the story more as an experiment than anything else, we can only say that her success is so far prejudicial to her. Readers of novels do not generally have the patience to regard critically the intentions of authors. In one respect indeed it would soon be adverse to the presence of the higher dramatic element in fiction if they did. There is some risk that we should then be infected with a self-conscious artisticity, which would in the long-run, be more emasculating than the sensationalism which is in vogue.

The novel is rightly named. Hilda Ford is just a "butterfly"—one of the "people whom" one likens to an April day—a creature half-child, half-woman; impetuous, passionate, "loving, changeable, whom you never expect to be wise or rational or useful or consistent, but 'only to charm you like some wild sweet flower.'" In a certain way Hilda Ford does charm us in her wilful waywardness, hardly touched with conscious selfishness—in her incapacity even to conceive of grave thought in another. She is sadly cast down at leaving the school, where the mistress has been kind to her, and very reluctant to place herself in the charge of Mrs. Erle, her godmother, who was regarded by her as pragmatic, and, of course, dull. Here, naturally, she is not at home, and the entertainment provided by Mrs. Erle is not much to her taste.

"The rain began to fall at twelve o'clock, and came down steadily all through the afternoon, so they did not go out even to the square garden. They dined at one, and after dinner Mrs. Erle brought out her knitting, and Hilda did her crochet, and they talked; and then Mrs. Erle produced *Rasselas*, and Hilda began the perusal of that celebrated book.

"Perhaps just at first you may think the style a little stiff, my dear," Mrs. Erle said to her. "Of course it is very unlike the slipshod writing we have so much nowadays; but I hope you won't feel that that is any objection to it. At any rate, I am sure you will enjoy it thoroughly when you have once got into it."

"And then, with a comfortable conviction that she had provided excellent entertainment for her guest during the remainder of the afternoon, Mrs. Erle put on her spectacles and began to read her newspaper; and Hilda, book in hand, retired to the sofa again, and I am afraid that during the hour that followed she found the style of '*Rasselas*' very stiff indeed."

And it must be admitted that for a young lady of seventeen, with ideas of her own, "*Rasselas*" was not quite so inspiring as some modern fictions we could name, notwithstanding its excellence of style. The presence of this "butterfly" soon becomes a discipline to Mrs. Erle, who is vastly puzzled over her. But luckily there is a hard-working son—an artist, who, by-and-by, affords some interest to the "butterfly." The "butterfly" flits about his

* *Only a Butterfly.* By GEORGIANA M. CRAIK, Author of "Mildred," &c. In One Volume. (Sampson Low, and Co.)

studio, occasionally rather distracting him, and this she varies with brusquely enlightening and nearly horrifying Mrs. Erle with her notions of the absolute preferability of idleness to needlework, leading that very sober-minded lady to reflect thus in the presence of her hard-working son—

"She is attractive enough, no doubt, in a certain way, but I am afraid it is all a surface attractiveness. I begin to suspect that there is very little that is either good or high in her. She is very selfish, I am afraid; I don't know whether she has much heart. Yes; she is bright, and pretty, graceful; that is all very true; but the fact is, I can't get on with her, my dear. Other people may be able to understand her better. It may be all my fault—but I can only say that, if there is good in her, she lets very little of it come out to me."

With the result, of course, that the son begins to think a great deal about the visitor to his studio, and to study her odd, wilful ways and to find in them a mighty attraction, which his worthy mother had failed to find:—

"Probably, too, as time went on, Mr. Erle also found out this. He did not know much about women, but he came to understand that this slight, bright creature had come, not either to be taught by him or to teach him, not either to be made better or worse by him, but simply to sing beside him like a soulless bird. If he had opened the window and some lark had flown in from the outer air and burst into its clear light song above his head, it would have been much the same sort of thing. Could he teach her or influence her any more than he could teach that bird with its wild, sweet voice? She used to seem as though she came so near to him; and yet how strange a distance there often was between them! Could she enter into the thoughts that were in his heart? Could she see life, or the world around her, as he saw them? Sometimes, for a moment or two, it used to seem as if some light of comprehension came into her, and the dark eyes would grow deep and passionate, and she would say some word or two that might have come out of another heart than hers—as if an angel had passed by her, and in passing had touched her lips. But a second would change all that, and bring her back again to her common mood—to her bird's song and her kittenish play."

The dull house becomes at last attractive enough, and when the twelvemonth has expired, and Hilda's brother comes to take her away, there are sundry little episodes that are interesting and suggestive; for Hilda does not leave till she is engaged to Mr. Erle.

Some passages in the story show a quiet insight into character; and the manner in which the progress of the love story is sketched has an interest of its own. But it is pre-eminently a quiet story, and the author clearly meant it to be so. To command a wider section of the story-reading public she must have recourse to a more complicated and efficient machinery than this. It may, however, find favour as a girl's story, for, as we have said, it is written with no little skill.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Recollections of the Emperor Napoleon on the Island of St. Helena. By MRS. ABELL. Third edition, revised and added to by her daughter, MRS. CHARLES JOHNSTONE. (Sampson Low and Co.) There is certainly interest enough in this book to justify its reappearance in a third edition. For, beyond communicating a great deal of Napoleon's life within his rocky prison, it may serve to correct many wrong impressions as to his treatment and his temper, at all events during the first period of his residence there. He is represented to us—see Carlyle's "*Hero-Worship*"—as gloomy, eating his heart out, vexed about trifles, and with no kindly concern in any form of human interests. Mrs. Abell was then a girl of thirteen, apparently of very quick, lively temperament, the daughter of Mr. Balcombe, purveyor to Napoleon and his suite. For a time, till his own house was ready, Napoleon resided with Mr. Balcombe at the Briars, showing himself remarkably social and affable, and taking no little delight in teasing the vivacious observant Betsée; and enjoying to the full the half-bold girlish tricks she freely played on him when they got well-acquainted, as they soon did. It is a delightfully naïf and interesting book. The free, dashing girl slapping the little Les Casan's cheeks, as the Emperor held him, *en revanche* for his kissing her; or her swinging the fine sword round the Emperor's head, and imprisoning him thus in his corner, while he kept in the best possible temper, are really good; while the episode of the Emperor's taking possession of the ball-dress till the last moment is really capital. It is odd to read of his simple tastes, his utter abstemiousness, and his preference for roast leg of mutton—the English dish which he liked best; much better, apparently, than he liked English music, as this will show—

"He asked me to sing, and I sang, as well as I could, the Scotch song, 'Ye banks and braes.' When I finished he said it was the prettiest English air he had ever heard. I replied it was a Scottish ballad, not English; and he remarked, he thought it too pretty to be English: 'their music is vile—the worst in the world.' He then inquired if I knew any French songs, and among others, 'Vive Henri Quatre,' Grétry's favourite air. I said I did not. He began to hum the air, became abstracted, and, leaving his seat, marched round the room, keeping time to the song he was singing. When he had done, he asked me what I thought of it; and I told him I did not like it at all, for I could not make out the air. In fact, Napoleon's voice was most unmusical, nor do I think he had any ear for music; for

neither on this occasion, nor in any of his subsequent attempts at singing, could I ever discover what tune it was he was executing. He was, nevertheless, a good judge of music, if any Englishwoman may say so, after his sweeping denunciation of our claims to that science, probably from having constantly listened to the best performers. He expressed a great dislike to French music, which, he said, was almost as bad as the English, and that the Italians were the only people who could produce an opera."

This is a specimen of the little practical jokes the young lady would sometimes play on the Emperor, without ever causing him to lose his temper:—

"Napoleon had some very beautiful seals and rare coins, from which he good-naturedly employed himself in taking off impressions in sealing-wax. Whilst he was thus engaged, I once mischievously jogged his elbow, and caused him to drop the hot wax on his fingers. It was very painful, and raised a large blister; but he was so very good-natured about it, that I told him I was quite sorry for what I had done; whereas, had he been cross, I should have rejoiced."

No wonder the Emperor missed this cheerful sprite, and got gloomy afterwards with Sir Hudson Lowe. There are one or two things which should be noted by the editor should the book be printed again. The quotation at top of p. 202 must be from Keble, but printed as prose it is rather puzzling at first sight. It should be set thus:—

"Our eyes see all around, in gloom or glow.
Hues of their own, fresh borrowed from the heart."
In the preface, of course, "Shelly" should be "Shelley."

Thoughts on the Essence of Christ's Atonement. By WILLIAM FROGGATT, Author of "A Revived Ministry," "our only Hope for a Revived Church," "The Work of God in every Age," &c. (London: Hodder and Stoughton.) We have perused this little book with a great deal of interest. It is the "Confession of Faith" of one who has long been known among Congregationalists as a thoughtful, earnest, and sound divine. Mr. Froggatt says, "The views of Christ's Atonement" expressed in the following pages have long been "entertained by the writer, and been the source of much mental rest and joy. He has often seriously thought of submitting them to his Christian brethren; and, warned by advancing years, he now no longer delays to do so." Mr. Froggatt makes "Christ's living and dying testimony for God the essence of his Atonement for man's sin," and he regards this testimony as offered directly to counteract "all the injurious and blasphemous insinuations implied in the Apostasy of Mankind." He contrasts this view with three theories; the first, the logical imputative theory which represents Christ as only making atonement for the elect, which Mr. Froggatt discards as plainly contradictory of the Gospel; the second, the theory of Moderate Calvinism, the quasi-imputative theory, which he objects to as representing God dealing in an unreal and fictitious way with His Son; and the third the theory of adequate repentance, by which, if Mr. Froggatt means the theory of McLeod Campbell, it is evident he has most imperfectly apprehended it. Mr. Froggatt still regards the government of God as needing to be vindicated in some extra-legal way from the suspicion cast on it by man's apostasy; if he had gone one step further and recognised the real necessity to lie not in setting God's will right before the worlds, but in setting men right in their apprehension of His rule, he would on this point have been, we think, thoroughly consistent and not easily answered. Mr. Froggatt affirms, too, that the death of Christ is man's work, "less decreed than foreseen"; and there is a large measure of truth in this. The certain operation of law, however, and the absolute working out of the constitutive order of human society in the death of Christ, seems hardly to have its due force in Mr. Froggatt's system. Nor does he give sufficient weight to that universality of vicarious sacrifice, the law of vicariousness, which Bushnell and James Hinton, among others, have so forcibly set forth. Mr. Froggatt's is not a deep theological treatise; our younger theologians will assuredly not accept it; either they will go on to the "Ethical," or back to the "Expiatory" theory of the Atonement; but they cannot fail to be interested in an old man's confession of faith. This is pre-eminently the book of a pious man; if it does not go deeply into the mysteries of Divine Government, it does not caricature it; and we do not wonder that Mr. Froggatt has found "mental rest and joy" in his soteriology.

This Present World. Sketches from Nature and Art. Taken in the Vacations of a Professional Life. By WILLIAM ARNOT, Edinburgh. (London: James Nisbet and Co.) In the introductory chapter of this work Mr. Arnot tells us how and why he has written it. It is in the mode of its production midway between the "Recreations of a Country Parson" and the "Extra Work of a London Pastor." In our opinion its tone is more natural and wiser than that of either of these titles. "A. K. H. B.'s" title suggests the skittishness of a not over-worked divine; Mr. Martin's gives the sombre picture of one who, already heavily loaded, has to take up and groan beneath new burdens. Mr. Arnot frankly says that he has vacations, times of play, and he turns his times of play to profit by studying science and art, and he thinks he may benefit others by the publication of papers which are to him a labour of love. A genial and intelligent spirit pervades his volume. Loving nature, and loving the Bible, he does not believe the two can ever come into real antagonism. It is good

to notice this cheerful faith, based on the impulses of a fresh, religious nature. Mr. Arnot's chapter on "Science and Religion" is by no means elaborate, nor does it reconcile all the difficulties suggested by its title. But it is quite sufficient for his purpose, and to many it will be far more helpful than reasonings to witness the undisturbed satisfaction with which a thorough Christian believer welcomes the teachings of science. Readers must not expect from Mr. Arnot the profundity of the scientific reasoner, but he "brings an eye for all he sees," as his description of the water-spout he watched indicates; and under all is his hearty enjoyment of nature. The same may be said of his chapters on "Art," in which he treats not the "Fine," but the "Useful" Arts; the electric telegraph and railways, drainage and irrigation. "The Present World" of his title includes "Part I. The World created, fashioned, and furnished by God," and "Part II. The World as it has been occupied, cultivated, and improved by the industry of man." Two faults that will irritate readers of good taste run through the book; a tendency to forced and unreal moralizing, and a tendency to tell very poor stories. These are, however, faults of his nation and his profession; the true piety, the *bonhomie*, the interested spirit of inquiry are his own.

Memoir of John Lovering Cooke, formerly gunner in the Royal Artillery, and late lay-agent of the British Sailors Institute, Boulogne. With a Sketch of the Indian Mutiny of 1857-8, up to the final capture of Lucknow. By the Rev. CHARLES H. W. WRIGHT, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford, &c. (James Nisbet and Co.) Mr. Wright has done well in writing this memoir. John Lovering Cooke was one of those remarkable men whose memory should not perish without record. He was the son of decent peasant people, but fell, while yet young, into sin; enlisted in the Artillery, and was often in danger through drink, and other forms of sin; was never without qualms of conscience; and at length in India the light came. Thereafter he was a model soldier and a model Christian worker, losing no opportunity of doing good, and many opportunities came to him in his lowly sphere. On being discharged, he came home to marry, happily, one whose acquaintance he had made in the oddest way, but who proved a fit helpmeet for him. He tried several things—among others police duty; but found his sphere at length as lay-agent for the British Sailors' Institute, Boulogne, where he was active in season and out of season. Though there are some things in his doctrines we do not like, his life was so nobly consecrated that we do unreservedly recommend Mr. Wright's readable and interesting record of it.

Essays. By JOHN FOSTER. (Religious Tract Society.) John Foster's essays for close, clear thinking—slow patient grasp of the various topics, and simple vigorous English, are not yet out of date. Nay, there is as much need as ever for the essays on "Decision of Character" and "Taste and Evangelical Religion" to be read and pondered both by young and old. We are therefore pleased to see this handsome, well-printed volume from the press of the Religious Tract Society, which may carry John Foster's writings where they have not yet been, but where, with their practical shrewdness and vigorous English sense, they will be prized.

Military Life in Prussia. (First Series.) The Soldier in Time of Peace. Translated from the German of HALKLANDER by F.E.R. and H.E.R. (Sampson Low and Co.) This is a clever humorous piece of satire; for as such we read it—though we do not doubt but much information may also be gathered from it. In this regard, however, the spice of caricature is too strong to render it reliable; but it is decidedly a smart and readable piece of work.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Third Notice.

Pet, or Pastimes and Penalties (1), is one of those books which are written from the childlike-point of view, not the childish one; and few children, we think, will be able to read it without much laughter and some tears. All life is a mixture of drizzle and sunshine—the former predominating—and child-life is no exception; and, though in the retrospect it tends to—

"Orb into the perfect star,
We saw not when we walked therein,"—
Still it has its shadows and drawbacks. Very faithfully has Mr. Haweis shadowed forth to us his version of child-life, with all its change and drizzle. Pet and Ben have a real look with them. The feasts, the scientific experiments—and Mr. Haweis is surely right, as all parents of children know that "you can't have science without smells"—the holidays in the country, the adventures at the seaside, all have a gracious touch of reality—now lightened with gentle humour, now subdued by profoundest pathos; and the tender appeal of the close, few, we are sure, will be able to resist. Poor Ben, Poor Pet! we say, and can scarcely refrain from wishing things had not just quite turned out so. It is admirably written, though, to be candid, we have observed a slip or two—as, for instance, on p. 166, in the use of the words "scarcely" and "than" in the same sentence. But these are spots on ermine. Mrs. Haweis' illustrations are admirable, clear and suggestive, and the get-up of the book is extremely neat. We are sure it will find favour with many youngsters.

(1) W. Isbister and Co.

Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen has now a prescriptive place among the honoured names of the nursery. *Queer Folks* (2), if not his best book, contains two of his best stories. "The Witch of Ballognoich," has a rattle of real humour, and if sometimes it wants delicacy a little, it has a certain truthfulness of its own. "The Barn Elves," has perhaps a touch more of the desiderated quality, and certainly "The Society of Pig-faced Ladies," has genuine fun of its own. We are extremely glad to see this new edition of this exquisite book, and are sure it will find a large public—as it so well deserves.

After the very best of modern literature, however, children will always return with delight to the old nursery tales. There is such naïveté, such insight, such freedom, such graceful frankness and *insouciance* in all of them. The publishers have therefore perhaps done wisely in issuing in a neat little volume the *Old Fairy Tales*, (3) collected and edited by Mr. JAMES MASON, and illustrated by Mr. J. Mohr Smith. The book is not exhaustive, of course, nor would it be supposing it was six times the size; but the tales are well chosen, and illustrated most effectively in delicate outline drawings. All the more familiar favourites are here, however, and we are quite sure the volume will be welcomed.

Miss Moore (4), by GEORGIANA M. CRAIK, is a story for young girls rather than for mere children. It is written with great simplicity, and is full of high lessons. Kate and Marjory, and Miss Moore and Miss Young are each meant to show us some truth in the development of their various characters and habits, and the main lesson of the story is one of the very highest—that in the matter of love, at all events, things don't go exactly by deserts. We are not sure but a little compression would in some of the chapters have been an advantage in view of the purpose of the story, but the style is so good that we are a little loth to say this. It is handsomely bound, but we do not much admire Mr. May's style of illustration.

The Brothers Rautsan; a Story of the Voyages (5), is a cheap edition of a translation of one of the most beautiful and striking of the works of those celebrated French co-workers MM. Erckmann-Chatrian. The little village of Chaumes is thrown open to us; we walk through it, and the hearts of some of its people are also made bare to us. How the two brothers Rautsan differed, and were reconciled, and became the slaves of a little child—all is told with the singular power and realism for which the authors are now famous, and we can only say we could wish that thousands shared the pleasure we had derived in the reading of this volume. It would form a most suitable Christmas or New Year's present. The illustrations are by a French artist, but are singularly forcible and expressive.

Trotty's Wedding Tour (6), by ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS, is a second edition of a most attractive story. It is American, of course; but that circumstance, we fancy, will weigh but slightly against its acceptance with English readers. It is not without a slight vein of the religious satire which was so strongly present in "Gates Ajar," and it very cleverly exposes some specially Yankee tricks of trade. It has no illustrations, but is extremely neat every way.

The Children's Pleasure Book (7) is a prize. It is a collection of short stories and sketches, abundantly illustrated in a superior manner. It is very well-written, and though it tends a little to be miscellaneous, is redeemed by one or two good ideas on the part of the editor. Jeanie Hering's story and Miss Zimmern's sketches strike us as really good, with true feeling and some fancy. The verse is fair; but the religious department is not so good as it might have been, and the "Bits of Biography" is almost a failure.

Of Lost Gips (8), we had occasion to speak in terms of unqualified praise on the appearance of the first edition a year ago. This is a larger size, with numerous clever and characteristic engravings, by Mr. Barnard; but the text really needs little aid from them. It is full of graphic pictures, vivid realisations of lower-class London life, and true pathos. We cordially recommend this little volume of Miss Hesba Stretton's to the attention of our readers.

Brave Hearts, by ROBERTSON GRAY (9), is an American story, giving a very idea of life in San Francisco and the Great West. It abounds in incident and adventure, as may be conceived; for these form such constituents in the life there as cannot be overlooked; but there is also a little love-story in it. There are several good illustrations by Marley.

Ned's Search. By M. H. HOLT, author of "Fern Glen" (10), is an illustrated story of considerable interest, the hero of which is a waif in one of our large towns. How Ned's curiosity was awakened by a picture of Christ, exhibited in a shop-window, and the remarks thereon of passers-by, which he partially overheard; and how his desire literally to go to the unknown benefactor Christ, for worldly help in his

- (2) Macmillan and Co.
- (3) Cassell, Potter, and Galpin.
- (4) Sampson, Low, and Co.
- (5) Sampson, Low, and Co.
- (6) Sampson, Low, and Co.
- (7) Virtue, Spalding, and Daldy.
- (8) H. S. King and Co.
- (9) Sampson, Low, and Co.
- (10) E. Marlborough and Co.

difficulties, led him eventually to the ragged-school, and brought him under the power of the Gospel, is well told in the book before us. The illustrations are also good.

Helen's Victory. By the Author of "Soldier Fritz," &c. (11). A book for younger girls, showing how Helen learned to conquer a passionate temper. Interesting, spirited, and sympathetic. But in the otherwise admirable character of "Etta," the book has the common fault of putting into a child's mouth the experience and decision of riper years.

City Sparrows and Who Cared for Them. By RUTH LYNN (12). An excellent little gift-book for children and young people, calculated to awaken hearty sympathy with the neglected, to console the suffering, and to prompt to deeds of real Christian charity. As a work of art it is as fresh and natural as the hillside spring. And the quiet current of the story is as easy and attractive as the flowing of the winding brook in summer.

Wonderful Works of Christ. By a Clergyman's Daughter. Second Series. (13.) An excellent exposition of the parables, for children, in continuation of a former series. This book affords a great deal of explanatory information, calculated to instruct and interest young Bible readers. Not a few of more mature years might also derive profit from its perusal. We can heartily recommend the book for Sunday family reading.

Out and All About. Fables for Old and Young. By H. A. PAGE (14). This is the first time we think that we have met with Mr. Page as a writer for children, and we congratulate the children on the fact that he has added himself to the number of their teachers. For there is a good deal of teaching in this book, although every page is just as pleasant and delightful as though there were no teaching at all. The "fables" are fresh and beautiful, written by one who has known spiritual faculties and the finest moral sense. Sometimes, and this is the only fault we find with the work, the meaning is just a little too remote, but after all, fables are as enjoyable when you don't see the meaning as when you do. The illustrations of this work, eighty-five in number, are exquisite, and altogether the book is one of the best yet brought out for the coming Christmas-tide.

THE LATE MR. JAMES SIDEBOTTOM.

(From the *Manchester Examiner*.)

We regret to hear of the death of Mr. James Sidebottom, so well-known as one of the firm of Kershaw, Sidebottom, and Co., but far more widely known as an influential Nonconformist, and an earnest and most generous supporter of philanthropic and missionary undertakings. For many years Mr. Sidebottom took a leading part in some of the local movements, connected with religion, education, and politics. On the platforms of the Free-trade Hall, the Corn Exchange, and the Town Hall, there was no more accustomed figure, and his services were in great request as chairman—of religious and educational meetings especially. As a staunch supporter of the Liberal party, he was associated likewise with the public demonstrations of the Anti-corn-law League and the Parliamentary reformers. He remained to the last, a constant and munificent contributor, pecuniarily, to efforts which his impaired health rendered it impossible for him to support as formerly by his presence on public occasions. A recent attack of paralysis proved fatal. Mr. Sidebottom died on Monday last, in his seventieth year.

Mr. Sidebottom's career as a commercial man was an excellent example of the virtues of diligence and probity. His parents were in a position too humble for him to have any early education that could fit him for higher employment than that of an errand boy. As such he was first engaged in the warehouse of the commercial firm of which he rose to be for a length of time the leading partner. His progress was made by successive steps from one post to another in the employment of Messrs. Leese and Kershaw, as he qualified himself by his own unaided efforts for the promotion. In Mr. Sidebottom's early days his working hours in the warehouse were pretty regular, from six a.m. to eight p.m.; and it was after his office drudgery was done that the youth laboured diligently and alone at the self-instruction necessary to make him competent, first as a clerk, and afterwards as an out-door representative of the firm. The time arrived when Mr. Sidebottom gained the repute of being the best "buyer" on the Manchester Exchange. Thus he became indispensably connected with the development of the establishment which had enjoyed his services. He was admitted to a partnership, and married a sister-in-law of one his early employers, the late Mr. Kershaw, M.P.

Mr. Sidebottom was one of those whose character is not spoiled by the gradual change from a humble lot to the height of prosperity and wealth. He remained throughout life as kindly and agreeable in his intercourse with all who approached him as he had been when those attributes had conduced to his advancement. He will be lamented not only by all who knew him personally, but by the many societies to whose funds he was a liberal contributor. The Congregational Chapel in Cavendish-street

- (11) Religious Tract Society.
- (12) Religious Tract Society.
- (13) Religious Tract Society.
- (14) W. Isbiter and Co.

will miss him especially. Mr. Sidebottom had been a regular attendant from the time of Dr. M'All's pastorate, throughout the period of Dr. Halley's and Dr. Parker's, and was a deacon at the time of his death. He was chairman and a main supporter of the Nottingham College for the education of evangelists, an institution the germ of which was Dr. Parker's smaller establishment of the same kind in connection with Cavendish Chapel. Mr. Sidebottom was also a director of the Lancashire Independent College. He has been known for many years as one of the warmest promoters of the Liberation Society, and more recently he contributed materially to the Manchester Nonconformist Association. As a director of the London Missionary Society, Mr. Sidebottom had the distinction conferred upon him of being "called to the chair" of its annual meeting in Exeter Hall. Of new places of worship belonging to the Nonconformist body, Mr. Sidebottom had been constituted almost an official layer of foundation stones, and he was proud of showing friends and visitors a collection of presentation trowels that must be almost unrivalled for its number.

On Friday morning the remains of Mr. Sidebottom were interred in Harpurhey Cemetery. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. A. J. Bray, and the Rev. Dr. Halley delivered a discourse eulogistic of the life and virtues of the deceased. About thirty private carriages followed the cortege, containing personal and political friends of Mr. Sidebottom.

Miscellaneous.

THE GAS AND WATER DEBENTURE COMPANY (LIMITED) has been formed for the purpose of applying to these companies the principle of combination, which was originated in the Foreign and Colonial Government Trusts, and has subsequently been most successfully extended by the operations of the Railway Debenture Trust Company (Limited), in the belief that the securities of gas and water companies offer a field peculiarly favourable for such operations. Ample details, with a view to establish this point, the list of directors of this new limited company, and other particulars of the project, interesting to investors, will be found at length in another column.

GOOD NEWS FOR HOUSE KEEPERS.—The *Iron and Coal Trades' Review* says:—"Clearly coal must come down and will come down before long—not with a great tumble, perhaps, but to something like a reasonable figure. The production of coal is being stimulated in all directions, and the output is being increased. On the other hand, consumption is diminishing. It may be safely asserted that the finished ironworks of the whole country are not making more than half-time on the average, and, with present high prices, it is quite out of the question to make for stock. Everybody admits that a small excess of supply over demand would cause the price of coal to fall considerably, and in our opinion we are rapidly approaching this condition of things. Manufacturers of iron will not buy at present rates; they will sooner let their works remain idle or only in partial operation, and coal-owners will find themselves unable to do business except at lower rates. We anticipate that a marked change in the price of coal will take place throughout the country before the end of the year. It may be said that the colliery proprietors will agree to limit their output, but when we take into account the extensive conversion of coal companies into joint-stock concerns, it is evident that the miscellaneous body of shareholders will not approve of any policy except that of making as much money as possible, leaving the future to take care of itself."

THE BOARD OF TRADE AND THE RAILWAYS.—A circular has been addressed by Mr. Chichester Fortescue to the various railway companies, calling attention to the reports on railway accidents for 1872, exhibiting a state of things which, it is believed, has been aggravated during the present year. It appears that a large proportion of these casualties are due to causes within the control of railway companies. There can be no doubt that methods of working and mechanical contrivances, the value of which has been thoroughly ascertained, have been too slowly introduced, and there is great reason to believe that sufficient provision has not been made for the safe working of the increased traffic by the enlargement or rearrangement of stations and sidings, and the laying down of additional lines of rails. Safety for life and limb, which ought to be a paramount object, has not been sufficiently secured, and great and increasing dissatisfaction is the result. Her Majesty's Government, therefore, reserving their own liberty to consider at any time the expediency of legislating upon any part of this important subject, have deemed it their duty to call the attention of the railway companies to the whole question, in the hope that they in whose hands the means of improvement mainly rest will themselves make every effort to meet the reasonable demands of the public and of Parliament.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.—The annual meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire International Arbitration Association was held on Friday, the Bishop of Manchester presiding. The report having been read, the Chairman addressed the meeting. He said he was not a "peace-at-any-price" man, and recognised that there were possible cases in which wars might not only be righteous, but necessary; but at the same time he and those around him desired that the number of such cases should be reduced to a minimum. There were more rational modes of settling international quarrels than by brute force. Bishop Vaughan proposed a

resolution recognising the importance of the movement in which the association was engaged, and said that he believed their chief aim should be to cultivate public opinion, so that in course of time nations might come to establish courts of law in which their differences could be settled. Mr. Hugh Mason seconded the resolution, and in the course of his remarks said, from information which he had acquired with regard to the disputes which had been going on on the West Coast of Africa, and especially from a conversation he had had with Bishop Crowther, he believed that the honour of this country would be much better maintained by our withdrawing from the West Coast of Africa, and allowing the traders to traffic with the natives without being backed by the force of arms. The resolution was adopted, and office-bearers for the year were appointed.

Cleanings.

Watching the revolving light of a lighthouse on the coast, a cockney exclaimed, "By Jove! that wind blows that light out as fast as the man can strike it."

ARTIFICIAL BLUSHES.—The *Kölnische-Zeitung* says that some samples of a lady's hat, of American invention, have been received in Germany from Paris, which have the quality of producing blushes at will. They are furnished with invisible springs, which, when the wearer bows or moves her head in a certain manner, stimulate the arteries on each temple, and cause a rush of blood to the cheeks.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" AT NEW ORLEANS.—It is quite worth while to notice, if only for its curious suggestions, the fact that lately the drama of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was presented upon the stage at New Orleans. We can imagine without much effort what would have been the effect of such a performance a few years ago. We may well feel, in view of such a fact, what an antiquity slavery, in the very life and soul of it, has become. —*New York Tribune*, Nov. 1.

WOMAN'S MISSION.—At a meeting at Kensington, on Tuesday night, in connection with the London School Board contest, Mrs. Arthur Arnold, one of the candidates, read the following communication which had been made to the secretary of her committee:—"The writer declines his support. It would be manifestly to the interest of Mrs. Arthur Arnold's husband and children that she should keep her allotted place at home. The chances are that Arthur and the children have holes in their stockings." After the shouts of laughter with which this was received had subsided, Mrs. Arnold went on to say, amid continued laughter and cheers, that she had no children, and if she had she should not be seeking election on the London School Board. That through her husband being absent a great part of the day she had much spare time, and that, as for the stockings of "Arthur," they were all knitted by her hands.

THE GREAT SEA SERPENT IN BELHAVEN BAY.—A correspondent from the Dunbar district writes:—"At half-past one o'clock on Tuesday afternoon it was announced in breathless haste to the writer that a long and large black animal was tumbling about in Belhaven Bay, to the intense excitement and surprise of about 120 individuals who had collected together and were witnessing its gambols. On hurrying to a proper coign of vantage with a good binocular to get a sight of the object, there was no doubt whatever of the truth of the statement. Near Belhaven Bay, and about a quarter of a mile from the place where we were standing, there certainly appeared 'a long and large black animal' in the water, having all the appearance of the Saurian described by Dr. Joass. When first observed it was proceeding shorewards, with what seemed to be its head and various undulated portions of the body above the surface. After getting near the shore it turned to the westwards, and kept moving about in that position for a considerable time. Sometimes it appeared to stretch itself out to its full length, at which times both its head and tail were seen above water, only a small portion of the middle of the creature being submerged. Most frequently, however, it was the undulations or apparent coils of the body that were observed, two or three of them being occasionally visible at the same time. These coils had all the appearance to the observers at the distance mentioned above of the coils or folds of a serpent, the sea and the black masses being distinctly separated. Occasionally the creature seemed to take a header, and disappeared altogether, but it seldom remained longer than two or three minutes beneath the surface without exposing some part or other of its body. When fully stretched out, as it appeared to be several times during the period of observation, it seemed to be upwards of a hundred feet in length, with an apparent breadth of from two to three feet. No doubt the dimensions must have been very much larger. As it was in sight for upwards of a quarter of an hour, ample opportunity was afforded for watching its movements. The sea also was as smooth as the surface of a mirror, which contributed very much to assist the observations made by the onlookers. After disporting near the shore for the time specified, the long and lithe creature turned its head to the north and stood out to sea. Altogether, if the animal was not the great Plesiosaurus seen by Dr. Joass, he was evidently a near relative of the same family, and his visit to Belhaven Bay has furnished food for reflection to those who witnessed his gambols for many a day." —*Scotsman*.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

A uniform charge of One Shilling (prepaid) is made for announcements under this heading, for which postage-stamps will be received. All such announcements must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.]

MARRIAGE.

COUCHMAN—READ.—On Nov. 24, at Broadway Church, Berkhamstead, St. Mary's, by the Rev. Sir J. H. C. Seymour, Bart., Matthew, son of the late Mr. William Head Couchman, of High Wycombe, Bucks, to Emily, eldest daughter of Thomas Read, Esq., of Great Berkhamstead, Herts. No cards.

DEATHS.

LANTSBERY.—At the house of her brother, J. B. Haddon, Lubenham Lodge, Ann Lantsbery, of Clipston, relict of the late John Lantsbery, of Creton. Aged 57 years.

ALEXANDER.—On Nov. 16, Ilza Lydia Alexander, elder daughter of Joseph Fletcher Alexander, 5, Ducie-gardens, Manchester, aged 14. Friends will please accept this intimation.

SIDEBOTTOM.—On Nov. 17, at his residence, Mersey Bank, Heaton Mersey, Manchester, James Sidebottom, aged 69 years.

DELF.—On Nov. 21, of diphtheria, at Orchard Cottage, Fulham, in her ninth year, Lillian Ann, the only child of Robert and Helen Delf, of 243, Fulham-road.

FUNERAL REFORM.

The LONDON NECROPOLIS COMPANY conducts Funerals with simplicity, and with great economy. Prospectus free.—Chief Office, 2, Lancaster-place, Strand, W.C.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, Nov. 19, 1873.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued £34,132,400 Government Debt. £11,015,100
Other Securities .. 3,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion 19,132,400
Silver Bullion —

£34,132,400

£34,132,400

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietor's Capital £14,553,000 Government Securities, (inc. dead weight annuity). £12,103,582
Reserve .. 3,185,898
Public Deposits .. 4,329,858
Other Deposits .. 18,690,919
Seven Day and other Bills 433,893
Notes .. 8,859,270
Gold & Silver Coin 812,753

£41,182,568

£41,182,568

Nov. 20, 1873.

F. MAY, Chief Cashier.

BREAKFAST.—EPPE'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Eppe has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills.—Civil Service Gazette. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPE & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."

HOW TO DYE SILK, WOOL, FEATHERS, RIBBONS, &c., in ten minutes, without soiling the hands. Use Judson's Simple Dyes, eighteen colours, 6d. each, full instructions supplied. Of all chemists. The "Family Herald," Sept. 3, says, "A very slight acquaintance with Judson's Dyes will render their application clear to all."

VALETUDE VISQUE LIBERIS.—"A preparation known as Dr. Ridge's Patent (cooked) Food is excellent for infants and invalids. It will be found a very useful preparation for making custards, puddings, and similar preparations for the nursery and sick room."—Extract from "Cassell's Household Guide." Supplied by most chemists and grocers in 1s. packets and 2s. 6d. tins.—Manufactory, Bermondsey, London.

ONE OF THE MOST SUBTLE AND DIFFICULT PROBLEMS OF THE DAY, a few years back, was to find an easy, certain, and handy method of checking disordered action in the human body before it passed onwards to disease. That desideratum was discovered and has been universally acknowledged, approved and applauded. Holloway's medicine gives tone to the nervous system, which is the source of all vital movements, and presides over every action which maintains the growth and well being of the body. Under these pills all the functions of life gain greater activity. No one can over-estimate the necessity of keeping the nerves well strung, and the ease with which these pills accomplish that end, is borne witness to by thousands.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Nov. 24.

We have moderate arrivals of English and foreign wheat. The trade is less active than last week, and the prices the same for both English and foreign. Flour fully supports last week's prices. We have a good demand for barley at late rates. Peas are quite as dear. Beans 1s. dearer. We have liberal arrivals of oats, which meet a free sale at 6d. per qr. advance. There is a large arrival of cargoes on the coast, of which samples are not at hand. Prices are noted the same as last week.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Nov. 24.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 9,715 head. In the corresponding week in 1872 we received 10,791; in 1871, 15,653; in 1870, 12,463; in 1869, 12,471; and in 1868, 3,817 head. The cattle trade to-day has been dull. The supplies have been less than last week, and, as usual, there has been a scarcity of prime breeds. The receipts from our own grazing districts have been only moderate. Prime stock has been inquired for, and has commanded full prices, the best Scots and crosses making 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d. per 8lbs. Otherwise the market has been quiet. From Lincolnshire we have received 35, from Leicestershire and Northamptonshire about 1,250, from other parts of England about 250, from Scotland 63, and from Ireland about 700 head. As usual, the foreign side of the market has been principally supplied with Tonnage stock, about 1,900 head being on offer. There have also been about 18 Spanish, 220 Dutch, and 60 Gothenburg. The sheep market has been heavily, at about previous currencies. The sheep market has been scantily supplied with English breeds, but fairly with foreign. The best Downs and half-breeds have been in moderate request, and have made 6s. 10d. to

7s. per 8lbs. Calves have changed hands to a moderate extent, at late rates. Pigs have been quiet, but steady.

Per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	4	4	4	10	Pr. coarse woolled	6	4	6	8
Second quality	5	0	5	4	Prime Southdown	6	10	7	0
Prime large oxen	5	10	6	0	Lge. coarse calves	4	4	4	8
Prime Scots	6	4	6	6	Prime small	5	2	5	6
Coarse inf. sheep	4	4	5	0	Large hogs	4	4	4	8
Second quality	5	6	6	0	Neat sm. porkers	5	2	5	6

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Nov. 24.—The supplies of meat offering here to-day are moderately large. The demand for all descriptions is very dull, and prices continue weak.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	2	8	3	4	Inferior Mutton	3	0	3	8
Middling do.	3	4	4	0	Middling do.	4	0	4	8
Prime large do.	4	6	5	0	Prime do.	4	10	5	4
Prime small do.	4	10	5	4	Large pork	3	6	4	0
Veal	4	0	4	8	Small do.	4	4	5	0

PROVISIONS, Monday, Nov. 17.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 200 firkins butter, and 3,533 bales bacon; and from foreign ports 36,291 packages butter and 1,106 bales and 240 boxes bacon. Nothing new in the Irish butter market. The supplies of foreign are large, and for some descriptions lower prices taken; best Dutch declined to 124 to 126s. The bacon market ruled dull, and prices of all descriptions declined 2s. per cwt.; best Waterford orders charged 72s. on board.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Nov. 24.—Moderate supplies of potatoes are on sale, and the trade is steady at the following currency: Regents, 100s. to 130s. per ton; Rocks, 60s. to 80s. per ton; Kidneys, 100s. to 120s. per ton; Flukes and Victorias, 110s. to 130s. per ton. The imports of potatoes into London last week consisted of 230 tons and 6,855 bags from Antwerp, 399 sacks from Boulogne, 641 bags from Harlingen, 803 tons, 200 bags, and 905 sacks from Dunkirk, 6 bags from Amsterdam, 15 from Ternsen, and 1,131 from Rotterdam.

WOOL, Monday, Nov. 24.—The English wool market has been quiet and without feature. For colonial the demand has been on a limited scale, at the rates current at the close of last sales.

OIL, Monday, Nov. 24.—Lined oil has been in slow request at about late rates. Rape has been easier. Other oils have sold slowly.

Advertisements.

Patronised by the CROWN PRINCESS of PRUSSIA, the SULTAN of TURKEY, and the NAWAB NAZIM of BENGAL.

SEWING MACHINES.

From £2 2s. to £25.

The only Establishments in London

where

the opportunity is afforded

of

inspecting and comparing

every

description of

SEWING MACHINES.

It is absurdly claimed for almost every Sewing Machine, whatever description, that it is superior to all others, for all purposes.

SMITH and CO., having no interest in selling any particular Machine, are enabled to recommend impartially the one best suited for the work to be done, and offer this GUARANTEE to their Customers:—Any Machine sold by them may be EXCHANGED after one month's trial, for any other kind, without charge for use.

SMITH & Co., 69, EDGWARE ROAD,

AND

4. CHARLES STREET, SOHO, LONDON.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the Union, to WELCOME those Brethren of the Congregational body who have recently visited America, will be held in the Weigh House Chapel on MONDAY EVENING, December 8.

The Revs. J. C. Harrison, A. McMillan, Dr. Parker, Dr. Stoughton, and J. Carvell Williams, Esq., will address the Meeting, giving some account of their experiences and impressions with regard to the American Churches.

HENRY WRIGHT, Esq., J.P., will take the Chair at six o'clock.

The Members of Congregational Churches are earnestly invited to attend.

Pastors and Delegates will receive, shortly, personal invitations to this Meeting, along with copies of the Annual Report.

JOHN NUNN, Secretary.

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE for INFANTS, Hornsey-rose, N.

A Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers was held on Thursday, November 20th, 1873, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, for the Election of Twelve Infants, two of whom to be retained until sixteen years of age.

HORACE MARSHALL, Esq., in the Chair.

At the close of the Ballot the following were declared to be SUCCESSFUL:—

Elected to continue until sixteen years of age.

1. Simpson, Kathleen L. 819 | 2. Postle, Agnes C. 595

Elected to continue until nine years of age.

3. Persons, Louis O. T. ... 854 | 8. Dyer, Alberta Alice ... 398

4. Woodward, Ida F. ... 469 | 9. Faulkner, Kate A. ... 380

5. Cutmoor, Emma S. ... 466 | 10. Hogarth, Fredk. W. ... 357

6. Chambers, Robert G. ... 457 | 11. Twiner, Henry F. ... 304

7. Blenkins, Grace. 428 | 12. Nicklin, Edith Mary. 303

Resolved unanimously, That the best thanks of this meeting be presented to Horace Marshall, Esq., the Chairman, to the Scrutineers, and to the Board of Management for the admirable manner in which they conduct the business of the Orphanage.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Secretary.

Infants are eligible from any part of the Kingdom, and are received from 12 months and upwards; five out of every six candidates presented have been elected. CONTRIBUTIONS are EARNESTLY SOLICITED. The Charity has no endowment, no funded property, but depends upon voluntary support.

"HEAT IS LIFE."

NICHOLLS'

PATENT VOLTA MEDICATED CLOTH

CURES

19 and 21, Paternoster-row, London, May 18th, 1871.

Dear Sir,—I tried your application for total deafness of the left ear, and it took it away. My daughter tried it for toothache—same result.—Yours truly,

B. WILLIAMS, Music Publisher. Mr. Nicholls.

63, Havelock-street, Caledonian-road, London, October, 1872.

Dear Sir,—William Potter, aged twenty-two years, ticket collector at the Moorgate-street Station of the Great Northern Railway, suffered with neuralgia of the face and head for three years. Two applications of your Patent Volta Medicated Cloth entirely cured me.—Yours very truly, WILLIAM POTTER.

Mr. Nicholls.

10, Market-place, Junction-road, Holloway, 1871.

Dear Sir,—I suffered with rheumatism in my feet, knees, and arms—in fact, I may say pretty well all over me. I had been under various treatments, but rather grew worse. I heard of your treatment spoken so highly of that I was induced to try the Patent Volta Medicated Cloth, and by strictly following the directions, got perfectly well, as before.—Yours truly, ALFRED TAYLOR.

Mr. Nicholls.

2, Gresham-buildings,

Basinghall-street, November 16, 1871.

Dear Sir,—I feel it imperative on my part to let you know that the application of your Patent Volta Medicated Cloth in a case of rheumatism, from which I had long suffered, was of the most satisfactory kind, and I am pleased to say I have derived the greatest benefit from them. For the good of similar sufferers you are at liberty to make what use of this you may think proper.—Dear sir, yours truly, F. GEORGE.

F. GEORGE.

10, Regent's Park-road, Sept. 2, 1872.

Sir,—In April last I suffered from an attack of bronchitis. I tried a 2s. 9d. box of your Volta Medicated Cloth, and, after two applications, was effectually restored. But what I think the most extraordinary is, that I applied it to a case of English cholera, from which I suffered a most severe attack, when ONE application of the cloth to the region of the stomach effectually restored me.—Yours, &c. Mr. Nicholls.

W. W. JONES.

P.S.—I feel great pleasure in bearing testimony to this.

Cholera.

(ANTIDOTE).

Buy a 11s. Box

of

NICHOLLS'

Volta Cloth.

See preceding testimonial.

North-road, Highgate, Jan. 9, 1873.

Dear Sir,—I tried your application for gout, from which I have long suffered. I have not had the slightest return of it.—With many thanks, I remain, yours truly, WILLIAM ATKINS.

Mr. Nicholls.

Gout.

Buy a 4s. 6d. Box

of

NICHOLLS'

Volta Cloth.

The great lexicographer, Dr. Johnson, was wont to remark that the man who could discover a remedy for the gout ought to have a monument as high and as broad as St. Paul's. The above testimonials are beyond confutation; hence we claim that the great Dr. Johnson's much-craved-for cure is now offered as one of the greatest boons that the poor martyr to gout, in his fondest hopes, could ever have anticipated; and the VOLTA CLOTH is equally high in its curative powers in Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Paralysis, &c., &c. Vide testimonials.

Some individuals, no doubt would be sceptical as to how it could effect such cures in such divers diseases. Our answer to such doubt is as follows:—The principle we work upon is solar heat, or the undulating solar ray, which is the active basis of all nerve action. NICHOLLS' PATENT VOLTA MEDICATED CLOTH is charged with caloric (heat), and evolves an ethereal gas, which produces a molecular change in the nerve cell, and as all diseases arise from an abnormal condition of the nerve cell, hence NICHOLLS' PATENT VOLTA MEDICATED CLOTH stands pre-eminent as the greatest discovery in modern medicine.

A Box of Nicholls' Patent Volta Medicated Cloth sent on receipt of Stamps or P.O.O. from

CHIEF DEPOT:

292, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

(Sixteen doors west of Chancery-lane),

OR YOU CAN ORDER IT OF YOUR CHEMIST.

CAMBRIDGE HOUSE SCHOOL, 120, Hagley-road, Edgbaston, near Birmingham.

WANTED, after the Christmas vacation, Two Resident Assistants, one of whom must be capable of teaching Drawing, all styles.—Apply to F. Ewen.

SMITHFIELD CLUB ANNUAL SHOW.

TO TENANT FARMERS AND OTHERS PROPOSING TO EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE BURLINGTON AND MISSOURI RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY WILL EXHIBIT at the Annual Show of the Smithfield Club, to be held at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON, on the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th of DECEMBER, 1873, a very large and fine collection of the various agricultural products of those portions of the States of Iowa and Nebraska through which this line of railway passes.

The particular attention of all who are proposing to emigrate from Great Britain, for the purpose of engaging in farming pursuits, is invited to this collection, the most complete, perhaps, of the kind ever exhibited in the United Kingdom.

Full information in reference to the climate and resources of the States of Iowa and Nebraska, and of the eligible farming lands there offered for sale, may be had at the stand during the Show, or at the offices of the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad Company, (Hamilton A. Hill, European Agent), 16, South Castle-street, Liverpool, and 25, Moorgate-street, London.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVER-STOCK-HILL, LONDON.

The Committee have RESOLVED to admit 45 Children in January next. Fatherless children of both sexes, between seven and eleven years of age, from any part of the kingdom, are eligible if their parents have not received parish relief.

Forms to fill up and all necessary information may be obtained at the office. The List will close Dec. 1.

JOSEPH KEMP WELCH, Treasurer.
JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 73, Cheapside.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.

The COMMITTEE very earnestly APPEAL for FUNDS. The Charity depends for three-fourths of its income upon voluntary support.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 73, Cheapside.

Bankers—London Joint Stock Bank.

TETTENHALL COLLEGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

HEAD MASTER.

ALEXANDER WAUGH YOUNG, Esq., M.A., Lond. (Gold Medalist in Classics); late Andrews' Scholar, and First Prize in Higher Senior Mathematics, of University College, London; Fellow of University College, London.

SECOND MASTER.

JAMES SHAW, Esq., Peel Exhibitioner, Queen's University, Ireland; and First of First Class in Classical Honours at the First B.A. Examination, London University.

ASSISTANT MASTERS.

R. B. CONNELL, Esq., Exhibitioner, Cargill Scholar, and Prize in the University of Aberdeen.
A. D. CAMPBELL, Esq., Associate of the Royal College of Preceptors.

HENRY TAYLOR, Esq.

Rev. P. P. ROWE, M.A., London.

HERMANN POMNITZ, Esq., Certificated by the Imperial Prussian Government, and by the University of Paris.

EXTRA MASTERS.

ARCHIBALD GUNN, Esq., Student Royal Academy of Arts, London, Drawing.

THOMAS ROBERTS, Esq., Chemistry.

Resident Lady Matron, Miss BAYLIS.

Applications to Head Master, or to the Hon. Sec., S. DICKINSON, Esq., Wolverhampton.

36, HILLDROP - ROAD, LONDON, N.

LADIES' SCHOOL, conducted by the Misses HEWITT, assisted by superior English and Foreign Masters.

The year is divided into Three Terms.

THE NORTHERN CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, SILCOATES HOUSE, NEAR WAKEFIELD.

ESTABLISHED 1831.

Principal—Rev. JAMES BEWGLASS, M.A., LL.D., M.R.I.A., assisted by competent Masters.

COMMITTEE.

JOHN CROSSLEY, Esq., J.P., Halifax, Treasurer.
Rev. Robert Bruce, M.A., T.W. Burnley, Esq., Gomersal, Huddersfield.
Rev. Bryan Dale, M.A., Halifax.
Rev. James Rae, B.A., Batley.
Rev. J. Calvert, Attercliffe.
Rev. Jas. Collier, Earlsheaton.
Rev. Chas. Illingworth, York.
I. Briggs, Esq., J.P., Wakefield.
George Clay, Esq., Dewsbury.
James Dodgson, Esq., Leeds.
Evan Hanson, Esq., Halifax.
W. Himmels, Esq., Southport.
W. H. Lee, Esq., J.P., Wakefield.
Joshua Taylor, Esq., Batley.
M. Wilks, Esq., Manchester.

The Committee of the above School have pleasure in announcing, that a new building has just been erected capable of accommodating one hundred Pupils, and specially adapted to secure their domestic comfort.

The course of instruction includes all branches of a sound Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education, so as to fit the Pupils for any department of business, or for entrance at the Universities.

The SCHOOL REOPENED, after the Midsummer vacation, on FRIDAY, the 1st of August, 1873.

Applications for admission to be sent to the Principal. For Prospectuses, Terms, and further information, apply to the Principal or Secretary.

STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES' GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Principals—The Misses HOWARD.

HALF-TERM will begin MONDAY, November 3rd.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX.

HEAD MASTER—

RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit. and M.A., Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of the Philological Society, &c., &c.

VICE-MASTER—

Rev. ROBERT HARLEY, F.R.S., F.R.A.S., Corresponding Member of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, Member of the London Mathematical Society, formerly Professor of Mathematics and Logic in Airedale College, Bradford, &c.

ASSISTANT MASTERS—

A. H. SCOTT WHITE, Esq., B.A., Prize in Anglo-Saxon and Early English of Univ. Coll., London.

JAMES H. MURRAY, Esq., F.E.I.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Author of "The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland," &c., &c.

JAMES NETTLESHIP, Esq., B.A., Scholar and Prize in Christ's Coll., Camb.; 2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1866.

LADY RESIDENT—Miss COOKE.

The MICHAELMAS TERM commenced 18th SEPTEMBER 1873.

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References: J. Barran, Esq., ex-Mayor of Leeds, Chapel Allerton Hall, near Leeds; Alfred Illingworth, Esq., M.P., Bradford, Yorkshire; Rev. A. Morton Brown, LL.D., Cheltenham; Rev. Alexander McLaren, B.A., Manchester; Rev. Charles Vince, Birmingham, &c., &c.

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ENCHANTED GLEN (written by Dr. Croft), notwithstanding its great popularity, cannot be given after November 8th, in consequence of the engagement of Mr. HOWARD PAUL. This week 300th representation. Mr. Hartwell.—New Lectures by Professor Gardner.—1. The SILBER LIGHT; 2. SUGAR: from the CANE to the TEA-CUP.—HOME ELECTRICITY, by Mr. King.—Other Novelties.—Open daily, from 12 to 5, and 7 to 10. Admission 1s.

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This Company has never amalgamated with any other office.

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Every third year a careful valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Company is made. The eighth valuation has just taken place, and the Directors are enabled, after reserving in hand a fund amply sufficient to provide for future claims and contingencies, to return to the Members the sum of £44,573 18s. 11d. The next division of Profits will be declared in 1878.

It has 11,995 policies now in force, assuring an aggregate sum of TWO MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO THOUSAND POUNDS.

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Prospectuses and Copies of the Last Report and Balance-sheet, and all needful information, can be obtained on application to any of the Agents of the Company, or to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

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THE GAS AND WATER DEBENTURE TRUST COMPANY (Limited).

Incorporated, with limited liability, under "The Companies Acts, 1862 and 1867," limiting the liability of Shareholders to the amount of their Shares.

CAPITAL £2,000,000, in 100,000 SHARES of £20 EACH. To be issued in Two Series of 50,000 Shares each, and 200 Founders' Shares of £1 each, to be paid up in full.

FIRST ISSUE 50,000 SHARES OF £20 EACH, AT PAR. On which only £10 per Share is intended to be called up, payable as follows:—

£1 per Share payable on Application.	
1/3 " " " " " " " " " " " "	Allotment.
3 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1st January, 1874.
3 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1st February, 1874.

Option being reserved to Allottees to pay up the whole £10 in one payment on Allotment under discount at £5 per cent. per annum.

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Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P. (Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., Bankers), Director of the London Gas Company, and of the Railway Debenture Trust Company (Limited), London, Deputy-Chairman.

W. P. Andrew, Esq., Chairman of the Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi Railway Company, and Chairman of the Beyrout Waterworks Company (Limited).

Arthur Pratt Barlow, Esq., Director of the Colombo Gas Company (Limited), London.

William Hawes, Esq., F.G.S., Chairman of the East London Railway Company, and of the Cadiz Waterworks Company (Limited), London.

Malcolm A. Laing, Esq., Director of the Railway Debenture Trust Company (Limited), Brighton.

John Horatio Lloyd, Esq., Director of the Railway Debenture Trust Company (Limited), 1, King's Bench-walk, London.

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Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., 1, Pall-mall East, S.W., London.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Norton, Rose, Norton, and Brewer, 6, Victoria-street, Westminster.

SECRETARY.

William Chamberlain, Esq.

OFFICES.

No. 5, Lothbury, E.C., London.

Gas and Water Companies have been long known to afford exceptionally safe and profitable investments.

The object of this Company is to apply to these Companies the principle of combination which was originated in the Foreign and Colonial Government Trusts, and has subsequently been most successfully extended by the operations of the Railway Debenture Trust Company (Limited).

The constitution of this Company is on a basis analogous to that of the Railway Debenture Trust Company (Limited), with which it will work in friendly connexion, though with an entirely distinct Capital. The Capital will be raised by Shares and by the Company's own Debentures, and will be invested in the Debentures, Shares, and Stocks of Gas and Water and other Companies.

While the main object of the Company is investment in the securities of Gas and Water Companies, it is not considered desirable that it should be precluded from participating in other profitable operations, and accordingly power is given to the Directors of investing in other securities, subject to the limit of not investing more than one-tenth of the Share and Debenture Capital in any one security.

The amount to be raised by the Company's Debentures is limited to three times the amount of the subscribed Capital.

The experience of the Directors has led them to the conclusion that the securities of Gas and Water Companies offer a field peculiarly favourable for the operations of a company thus constituted, and the following are among the more prominent advantages:—

1. Gas and water being among the necessities of modern life, and the growth of towns being constantly on the increase, the demand for gas and water both for public and private use becomes yearly greater.
2. Most Gas and Water Companies have, by Act of Parliament or by the terms of their Concessions, a practical monopoly, and are therefore enabled to reap the full benefit of an increased demand for the article which they supply.
3. While Gas and Water Companies possess these special advantages, in the vast majority of instances they have been formed for the accommodation of single towns, and are, consequently, local in their character. Their shares therefore, though intrinsically valuable, as combining profit and security, may often be obtained at a moderate price, because they are not known or are not readily negotiable in the great money-markets. It has, on the other hand, been found that the shares of Trust Companies find a ready market on the Stock Exchange; and thus the operations of the Company will practically give facility of realisation to securities which needed nothing else to place them in the first rank of investments.

A reference to the Share List will show that the Gas and Water Companies which are quoted on the English market, have as a general rule been highly successful, and their Shares have attained large premiums. For instance:—

Amsterdam Waterworks, original price 20, are now quoted at 28 to 30—Last Dividend 7 per cent.
Berlin Waterworks, original price 10, are now quoted at 18 to 20—Last Dividend 10 per cent.
Bristol Waterworks, original price 25, are now quoted at 45 to 50—Last Dividend 10 per cent.
Odessa Waterworks, original price 20, are now quoted at 22 to 23—Last Dividend (estimated) 10 per cent.
European Gas, original price 10, are now quoted at 13½ to 14½—Last Dividend 10 per cent.
Gaslight and Coke, original price 10, are now quoted at 14½ to 14¾—Last Dividend 10 per cent.
The London Gas, original price 100, are now quoted at 153 to 156—Last Dividend 10 per cent.
Monte Video Gas, original price 20, are now quoted at 24 to 25—Last Dividend 8 per cent.
Oriental Gas, original price 5, are now quoted at 6½ to 7½—Last Dividend 9 per cent.
Rio de Janeiro Gas, original price 20, are now quoted at 31 to 33—Last Dividend 10 per cent.

Experience has shown that well-selected Gas, Water, and other Industrial Companies yield returns of from 6 to 12 per cent.; and a contract for the investment of a portion of the Capital has been made by the Company on this basis.

In addition to its ordinary profits from investments, considerable gains may also be expected to accrue from drawing

and sinking funds, as well as from realisations and changes of investment as favourable opportunities occur.

It is further confidently anticipated that profits may be often realised from commissions on the purchase of Debentures and Shares, as well as by the Company acting as Agent for the issue or sale of Securities, or by making advances on the security of Debentures and Shares of ample value. The Company will possess peculiar facilities for these transactions, and it is believed that from the above combined sources the Shareholders of the Company will derive a most remunerative return for their investment.

The following may be considered an approximate calculation of the dividends which this Company may be expected to realise:—

	Dividend per annum on paid-up Share Capital.
With £1,000,000 Share Capl. 8 per cent on amount called-up.	
" £1,000,000 of Debentures issued	10 " " "
" £2,000,000 " " " " " " " " " "	13 " " "
" £3,000,000 " " " " " " " " " "	16 " " "

No promotion money is to be paid; and the founders of the Company undertake to pay all preliminary and other expenses of its establishment, and to guarantee the subscription of two-thirds of the present issue (being the amount required by the rules of the Stock Exchange for obtaining any official quotation) in consideration of receiving 10 per cent. of the net profits in every year in which not less than 7 per cent. dividend is paid on the entire paid-up Share Capital. This arrangement not only assures the successful foundation of the Company, but enables it to start with its Share Capital intact.

The remuneration of the Directors is made mainly contingent on profits, the fixed allowance being limited to £2,000 a-year, in addition to which they are to receive 5 per cent. upon the net profits of any year in which a dividend of not less than 7 per cent. is paid to the Shareholders.

Scrip Certificates will be issued in exchange for Bankers' Receipts, which, as soon as the £10 per Share has been paid up, will be exchanged for Share Certificates.

The only Contracts entered into by the Company are two Contracts, both dated the 21st day of November, 1873, made between Samuel Laing, Esq., M.P., on behalf of himself and others of the one part, and William Chamberlain, Esq., on behalf of the Company of the other part, and a Contract dated the 21st day of November, 1873, made between Walter Howell, Esq., of the one part, and the Company of the other part.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association, and all Contracts herein referred to, may be seen at the Offices of the Solicitors, Messrs. Norton, Rose, Norton, and Brewer, 6, Victoria-street, Westminster.

In the event of no Allotment being made the amount paid as deposit will be returned without deduction.

Should a smaller number of Shares be allotted than applied for, the balance paid on Application will be applied towards payment of the amount due on Allotment.

Failure to pay the amount of any instalment when due will render all previous payments liable to forfeiture.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained of—

The Railway Debenture Trust Company (Limited), 5, Lothbury, E.C., London.

Messrs. Norton, Rose, Norton, and Brewer, Solicitors, 6, Victoria-street, S.W., London;

Or the Secretary, at the Offices of the Company, 5, Lothbury, E.C., London;

And also from

Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co., Bankers, 67, Lombard-street, E.C., London;

Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., Bankers, 1, Pall-mall East, S.W., London, the Bankers of the Company, to whom all applications must be forwarded, accompanied by a Deposit of £1 per Share.

5, Lothbury, E.C., London, 21st November, 1873.

ISSUE OF 50,000 Shares of £20 EACH of the GAS and WATER DEBENTURE TRUST COMPANY (Limited).

FORM OF APPLICATION.

(To be retained by the Bankers.)

To the Directors of the Gas and Water Debenture Trust Company (Limited).

Having paid to your Bankers, to the account of the Gas and Water Debenture Trust Company (Limited), the sum of _____ Pounds, being the Deposit of £1 per Share on _____ Shares, upon the terms of the Prospectus dated 21st November, 1873, I request you to allot to me that number of Shares, and I engage to pay the further instalments upon that or any lesser number that you may allot to me as the same shall become due, in default of which my previous payments will be liable to forfeiture.

Name (in full)
Address
Profession (if any)
Date 1873.
Signature

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WASH will in two days cause grey hair or whiskers to become their original colour. This is guaranteed by Alex. Ross. It is merely necessary to damp the hair with it. Price 10s. 6d.; sent for stamps.—248, High Holborn, London.

SPANISH FLY is the acting ingredient in Alex. Ross's CANTHARIDES OIL. It is a sure restorer of Hair and a producer of Whiskers. The effect is speedy. It is patronised by Royalty. The price is 3s. 6d.; sent for stamps.

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It curls immediately straight and ungovernable hair. It is of no consequence how straight or ungovernable the hair is when it is used. Sold at 3s. 6d.; sent for 54 stamps.

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—It restores Grey Hair to its original colour in a few days. It increases growth and removes dandruff. Sold in large bottles at 3s. 6d.; sent for stamps or P. O. Order.—A. ROSS, 248, High Holborn, London.

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There is no doubt that the Registrar-General's reports and statistics relating to mortality amongst infants would show a very marked improvement if

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For more than 20 years it has sustained an unrivalled reputation throughout the United Kingdom and Colonies as the BEST and SAFEST article for cleaning Plate.

Sold by Chemists and Ironmongers, &c., in Boxes, 1s. 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. each, and by the Inventor, J. GODDARD Chemist, Leicester.

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PATENT FIREWOOD, WHEEL or SQUARE.
Entirely superseding bundle-wood. Adapted for any size grate.

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The patent VENTILATING STOVE for burning coke, a close stove, in five sizes, 60s., 70s., 80s., 105s., 140s., is cheap in cost, cheap in consumption of fuel, will last for years, is easily repaired, and powerful in its heating capacity. Hundreds are now in use and universally approved. Deane and Co. have all sizes on sale; also Gill and Gurney Stoves, Hot-air stoves, and gas stoves requiring no fuel, four burners, 55s.; Prospectuses post free. DEANE and Co., 46, King William-street, London-bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

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Co., Coal Merchants to the Queen and to the Royal Family. Best Wall's-end, 33s.; best Inland, 38s.; best Coke, 26s.—cash prices. Central Office, 13, Cornhill; West End Office, next Grosvenor Hotel, Piccadilly.

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